PUBLISHED MONTHLY.—PRICE 8 ANNAS.

THE INDIAN RAILWAY TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.

The NEW AND MOST COMPLETE Guide to India.

Time Tables of all Indian Railways, Steamers, and Dâk Routes, Places of Interest Inland and along the Coast, Postal and Telegraphic Information, &c., &c.

COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.

"Bombay Gazette" Office, Fort, Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 50,884—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1897.

ESTABLISHED 1818.

PETER F. HEERING'S COPENHAGEN CHERRY BRANDY.

Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants, by whom the New Show Cards can be obtained on application.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

	Captains.	
CARTHAGE	M. De Horne	2 p.m. SATURDAY, 2nd Jan.
ORIENTAL	L. H. Moule	9th "
CANNON	E. Crowe	16th "
BRITANNIA	W. R. Andrews	23rd "
CARTHAGE	M. De Horne	30th "
PENINSULAR	M. De Horne	6th Feb.
CANNON	E. Crowe	13th "
INDIA	W. A. Wheler	20th "
CARTHAGE	M. De Horne	27th "
CALEDONIA	W. R. Andrews	6th March.
CANNON	E. Crowe	13th "
BRITANNIA	W. R. Andrews	20th "
PENINSULAR	M. De Horne	27th "
CARTHAGE	R. P. Briscoe	3rd April.
CANNON	E. Crowe	10th "
INDIA	W. A. Wheler	17th "
CARTHAGE	M. De Horne	24th "
CALEDONIA	W. R. Andrews	1st May.
CANNON	E. Crowe	8th "
BRITANNIA	W. R. Andrews	15th "

Proceed to BRINDISI, thence overland to MARSEILLES, PARIS and LONDON.

Steamers marked thus * proceed to Marseilles only, and passengers cannot be booked to London by same route by Mail Steamers, but Passengers for London can embark at Port Said.

Steamers marked thus † proceed to Aden only, and Passengers for Europe can embark at Aden.

Steamers leave Ballard Pier at noon, and the Prince's Dock Gates are closed punctually at 2 p.m. on the day of sailing.

Passengers are conveyed to the Ballard Pier, at noon, on the day of sailing, from the Apollo Bunder Gate only.

Passengers can be booked, and only Cargo, Specie, Parcels, Packages, &c., will be received on board at the Prince's Dock Gates.

Further particulars as to Freight, Passage, and other information can be obtained on application to the Agents.

Passengers are booked through to Southampton, London, Paris, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Russia, Italy, Austria, Spain, Portugal, and all parts of Europe, at the most favourable rates.

Special attention is paid to the grouping of Passengers, and every facility is afforded them in the transit of their Baggage across France.

Passengers booked to Alexandria, Egypt, and Marseilles, Naples, Leghorn, Genoa, Venice, Trieste, Brindisi, Malta, Gibraltar, Constantinople, Smyrna, Beyrout, Alexandria, Port Said, Suez, Aden, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Beira, Inhambane, Lourenco Marques, Durban, Natal, Mauritius, Réunion, Madagascar, Seychelles, Colombo, Penang, Singapore, Hongkong, Shanghai, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Java, Manila, Borneo, Celebes, Moluccas, Timor, Sumatra, Siam, Cochin China, Tonquin, and China.

Passengers booked to Australia, New Zealand, Java, Manila, Borneo, Celebes, Moluccas, Timor, Sumatra, Siam, Cochin China, Tonquin, China, and Japan, at favourable rates.

Passengers booked to Ceylon at frequent intervals.

Passengers booked to Aden, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Beira, Inhambane, Lourenco Marques, Durban, Natal, Mauritius, Réunion, Madagascar, Seychelles, Colombo, Penang, Singapore, Hongkong, Shanghai, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Java, Manila, Borneo, Celebes, Moluccas, Timor, Sumatra, Siam, Cochin China, Tonquin, China, and Japan, at favourable rates

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TIVOLI THEATRE.

MANAGER.....Mr. H. P. LYONS.

LAST NIGHT, BUT ONE.

"TAYLOR-CARRINGTON" SEASON.

THIS EVENING, NEW YEARS NIGHT.

GREATEST PRODUCTION OF THE SEASON.

Dion Boucicault's Best Drama

THE SHANGHRAUN.

THE SHANGHRAUN.

Fun, Singing, Sensation.

CHARLIE TAYLOR as COON!

ELLA CARRINGTON as MOYA.

Beautiful Scenery! Startling Effects!

Remember Last Night but One.

SEATING TARIFF:—Rs. 4, 3, 2, and 1.

Box Office at SOUNDY & Co's.

Soldiers and Sailors admitted half-price to Pit and Stalls.

S. S. "BRANKSOME HALL"

ARRIVED 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.

CONSIGNEES are requested TO TAKE DELIVERY of their CARGO from the VICTORIA DOCK. Claims or Broken Packages must be surveyed before removal from the Landing Shed. The Undersigned decline to survey GOODS removed to the Unclaimed Warehouse.

Lifts exceeding 30 cwts. will be delivered into Consignees' Boats, and, if not alongside in time, will be landed or placed in Boats at Steamer's option at their risk and expense.

Captain CLARK will attend every Morning to survey Damages, &c., and all Claims must be certified to by him, and sent in within a month of Steamer's arrival, or they will not be paid.

EDWARD BATES & Co.,
Agents.

Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, 31st December, 1896.

NOTICE.

THE ARMY AND NAVY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

(Of 105, Victoria St., Westminster, London, S.W.)

THE Bombay and Karachi Depots of this SOCIETY, will be CLOSED on FRIDAY, the 1st January, 1897, "NEW YEAR'S DAY."

WANTED, 12 HOSPITAL ASSISTANTS to act as SUB-INSPECTORS or CEMETERY CLERKS in the Health Department, Pay Rs. 40.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner.

T. S. WEIR,
Health Officer.

THOMAS COOK & SON,

BANKERS, ARMY AND GENERAL PASSENGER AGENTS,

BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, AND RANGOON.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS kept on the usual terms.

DEMAND DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day, on London or on any of our Branch Offices.

TELEGRAPHIC TRANSFERS or REMITTANCES made expeditiously at best rate of Exchange *without charge for Commission.*

DEPOSITS received for fixed periods, or available at any time for remittance to England. Rate of interest on application.

LETTERS OF CREDIT and CIRCULAR NOTES issued, Bank of England Notes, Sovereigns and Foreign Monies sold and Exchanged.

PAY AND PENSIONS collected without charge, except when under guarantee to Government.

LOANS and ADVANCES made against approved Security.

INVESTMENTS.—Stocks and Shares bought and sold.

INTEREST on Government Securities, and Dividends on Joint Stock Shares realised at a charge of ¼ per cent.

SUPPLIES of every discription obtained for Messes, Clubs, &c.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF BANKING AND ARMY AGENCY BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

THE "MOZART" STOOL.

(Size 14 in. by 18 in.)

"RISE AND FALL ARTIST'S SEAT."

A most perfect Piano Seat, possesses the important advantages of 5 in. elevation, absolute steadiness and quick rise by a few Turns of either Handle; strong metal mechanism in

LEATHER, RICH VELVET AND SADDLEBAG, Rs. 65 to Rs. 85.

THE "MOZART" MODEL UPRIGHT BOUDOIR PIANOS,

Rs. 650 to Rs. 750.

Refined and elegant exterior, SPECIALLY BUILT for the CLIMATE OF INDIA, solid metal frames, beautifully sweet and powerful in tone; full Compass.

Height 4 ft. 1 in. Width 4 ft. 11 in. Depth 2 ft. 1 in.

SPECIAL EASY TERMS for Hire Purchase.

MARCKS & COMPANY, LD.,
PIANOFORTE WAREHOUSE,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

"NEUBERG'S CHEROOTS."

NEW SHIPMENT OF

TRICHINOPOLY CIGARS & CHEROOTS.

"Well rolled and well flavored they bear off the palm.
They soothe leisure moments and anger disarm,
From the crown of your hat to the soles of your boots,
You feel that there's virtue in Neuberg's Cheroots."

Respectful attention is requested to present Stocks, which are simply *unapproachable* as regards QUALITY and CONDITION.

Parcels for Friends at Home made up on Shortest possible Notice.

SPECIAL REGARD FOR DUTIABLE WEIGHTS!!

FLOR DE JAVAS.

Not to be confounded with so-called MAVAS obtainable elsewhere. These are the SOLE ONLY ORIGINAL JAVAS.

FREE DRAUGHT,
SPLENDID CONDITION,
PUREST TOBACCO.

"TORPEDO SPECIALS;"
"GYMKHANAS."
"BEACONSFIELDS; BAHADURS."

And all the present leading Indian Brands.

FOREIGN CIGARS.

"SPOTTED DOGS,"
"SPOTTED ZENOBIAS,"
"SEMIRAMIS."

The Genuine Articles. Very Choice.

REAL BURMAH CHEROOTS.

Direct from Burmah.
Very finest obtainable.

GENUINE

HAVANNA CIGARS

In boxes of 25 and 50.

J. NEUBERG,
51, ESPLANADE ROAD, OMBAY

NOTICES.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

ON MONDAY next, the fourth proximo, a SPECIAL TRAIN for the conveyance of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-class passengers, and their luggage, will leave Lamond Station, at 7 o'clock; and Khandala, 7-10; Karjat, 8-0; Neral, 8-35; and Kalyan, 9-14; and will arrive in Victoria Terminus, at 10-25 o'clock (Madras Time)

E. W. KELLY,
Acting General Traffic Manager.

Bombay, 30th December, 1896.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

THE BANK will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, the 24th, 25th, and 26th instant and on THURSDAY, the 31st, and on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the 1st and 2nd proximo, these days being Public Holidays, under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 17th December, 1896.

NOTICE.

TENDERS are invited for the CONSTRUCTION of a COMPLETE BUILDING for a mill of 20,000 Spindles at Sholapur.

Tenders will be received within 8th January 1897.

NURSINGHRJEE,
Manufacturing Company, Ld

Sholapur, 28th Dec, 1896.

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

SPECIAL REDUCED RATES FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

FIRST and SECOND CLASS PASSENGERS travelling by the Company's Steamers between 15th December and 15th January, will be GRANTED RETURN TICKETS at SINGLE FARES.

MACKINNON MAKENZIE, CO.,
Agents.

H. H. THE NIZAM'S GUARANTEED STATE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

TENDERS are invited for the supply of the following Stores for twelve months, commencing from the First Day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety seven.

Coconut Oil, best	26 Tons
Castor Oil, best	100 "
Kerosine Oil, 125° flash	5,000 Gallons.
Kerosine Oil, 150° "	2,000 "
Cylinder Oil	7,100 "
Axle Oil, Mineral	80 Tons.
Cotton Waste, No. 1, best	20 "

To be delivered FREE on Railway Wagons, Wasee Bunder, Bombay.

The Contractor to pay all claims for shortages through leakage and other preventable causes in transit.

Cocoanut Oil and Castor Oil Casks to be returned free to Waree Bunder, Bombay.

Each Item to be tendered for separately.

Sealed Tenders endorsed as such will be received by the Bombay Agent at his office, Thacker's buildings, Fort, up to 1 P.M. (Gun Fire on the 15th January 1897.

Forms of Tenders can be had on application at his office on pay-ment of one Government Rupee.

The successful Tenderer or Tenderers will have to deposit Security in Government paper or in Cash to the extent of five per cent. of the value of the Contract.

The Agent and Manager does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

RICHARD ROBERTS,
Storekeeper.

Storekeeper's Office, Secunderabad, 23rd December 1896.

CEYLON FLANNEL.

THE ELGIN MILLS, Cawnpore, keep a Stock of the above unshrinkable Flannel in plain whitegrey and various coloured patterns. Price Re. 1 per yard 29" wide. Sold in short lengths to suit constituents.

SAMPLES FREE.

SALES BY AUCTION.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,

No. 7, MARINE STREET.

WEEKLY AUCTION SALE.

On MONDAY, the 4th Instant, at 2 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co., will sell by Public Auction, at their Rooms, a quantity of grey, white, and coloured piece-goods, and the following:—

1 iron frame cottage piano.
14 bundles wrought iron steam tubes, coated with Dr. Angus Smith's solution.
A quantity of household furniture, consisting of sofas, chairs, dressing and washhand tables, teapoys, chest-of-drawers, almyrahs, &c.
By order of Mr. Morarjee Veljee, and on account and at the risk of Murwan a Samaratraj Khemlidas:—
30 cases, each 50 pieces white shirtings, 34 to 35 inches, yard kent e stamp.

AT 2 P.M.

1 strong serviceable double-seated landau.
1 light strong victoria.
1 strong built dog-cart.
1 Bay waler gelding, 14-3, goes quietly in harness and saddle.
1 Premier-Gyre safety bicycle made by the Novelty Cycle Co., Reading, only been in use 6 months, sold as owner is going home.
1 safety bicycle.
And any other carriages and horses which may be offered.

On SATURDAY, the 9th instant, at 1 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at No. 39, Marine Lines, opposite the new bungalows, the very valuable and handsome blackwood and teakwood French-polished household furniture, by John Roberts and others, best plateware, rich crockery and glassware, rich table ornaments, fancy door curtains, Hinks's table and hanging lamps, carpets, a large collection of garden plants in tubs and pots, etc., the property of G. OWEN DUNN, Esq.

Catalogues will be published, and the property will be on view four days before the sale.

CRAWFORD & Co.

Bombay, 30th December 1896.

BENNETT AND COMPANY

No. 21, APOLLO STREET.

TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, the 2nd inst, Messrs BENNETT and Co., will sell by Public Auction, at their rooms, a quantity of grey and coloured piece goods:—

AT 1-30 P.M.

1 handsome strong built victoria, with a powerful bay Arab, 14-2, and a set of brass mounted single harness.
1 dark bay Arab pony, 13-3, for life, goes in harness and saddle, a nice trapper and bridle.
1 handsome strong small pheaton in very good order.
1 grey country bred horse, 14-1, goes in harness, and believed sound.
1 strong glass-fronted brougham, with a grey Arab horse, and a set of single harness.
1 bay Arab pony gelding, goes well in harness, has been broken as a charger.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

On MONDAY, the 11th inst., at 1 p.m., Messrs. BENNETT and Co., will sell by Public Auction, at Gamdevi Road, Chowpatty, opposite Victoria Mills, valuable and handsome teak and blackwood furniture, specially made to order by John Roberts and Co., plated-glass, and crockery ware, handsome China and Japanese flower vases, one brass-rate mahogany grand-square pianoforte, rich table ornaments, Hinks's table and hanging lamps, brussel carpets, &c., &c., the property of the late Mr. A. B. F. MYER, of JOHN ROBERTS and Co.

Catalogues will be published, and the property will be on view four days before the sale.

BENNETT & Co.

Bombay, 31st December 1896.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.,

No. 4, FORBES & MEDOWS STREETS, FORT.

SALE OF WOOLLEN AND COLORED CLOTH, IRON TREASURY, ETC.

By order of C. A. Turner, Esq., Official Assignee, H. C., and in re Hajeebhoodas (Surendas), an adjudged Insolvent, Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on MONDAY, the 4th January, 1897, at 2-30 p.m., at No. 12, Chunabatti Cloth Market Street, consisting a quantity of Colored Cloth, Dyeing Red, Dhoties, Broad cloth, embroidered sarees from treasury, looking glass, copying Press, pictures, globe lamps, mattresses, pillows, etc.

SALE OF VALUABLE PLOTS OF GROUND BELONGING TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF BOMBAY.

The following 40 Municipal plots of land, suitable for building, situate in the Arripads district, and to the north of the Byculla Club, will be sold by Public Auction, on the premises, by Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON and Co. in pursuance of sanction given by the Municipal Corporation of the City of Bombay, at 3 p.m., on MONDAY, the 11th January, 1897, the auction, if not completed that day, will be continued at 3 p.m., on each successive day (except Sundays), until all the plots have been offered.

Particulars of the Plots.

Plot Nos.	Area sq. yds.	Plot Nos.	Area sq. yds.	Plot Nos.	Area sq. yds.
1	663'97	15	555'26	34	887'24
2	555'36	16	757'43	52	881'35
3	555'21	19	670'69	53	698'28
4	734'73	20	672'48	54	650'74
5	734'91	21	674'77	55	721'87
6	555'36	22	676'53	56	715'00
7	555'36	23	838'09	57	715'00
8	734'91	24	870'73	68	715'00
9	737'13	25	683'68	79	727'24
10	555'26	26	685'23	90	731'11
11	555'26	27	686'26	99	721'11
12	746'92	28	690'61	103	1,000'00
13	746'04	29	692'08		
14	555'36	30	683'87		

Plans showing all the plots of land to be sold can be purchased at the Executive Engineer's Office, Municipality, at Rs. 1 each.

Further particulars and the conditions of sale can be obtained on application to the Executive Engineer, at the Municipal Office, Esplanade, to Messrs. Crawford, Bunter, Bayley, and Dunlop, Municipal Solicitors, or to the undersigned:—

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & CO.

Bombay, 1st January 1897.

BANKS.

CREDIT LYONNAIS.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

CAPITAL (fully paid) Frs. 200,000,000 = £8,000,000
RESERVE FUND... Frs. 40,000,000 = £1,600,000

BOMBAY BRANCH: ESPLANADE ROAD.
CENTRAL OFFICE: PARIS. HEAD OFFICE: LYONS.
Branches in all the principal Towns of France and Algiers
LONDON OFFICE 10, Lombard Street, E.C.
WEST END BRANCH 6, Cockspur Street, S.W.
BRANCH IN CALCUTTA.

FOREIGN BRANCHES.

Alexandria, St. Petersburg, Madrid, Brussels, Constantinople Cairo, Moscow, Barcelona, Geneva, Smyrna, Port Said, Odessa, Jerusalem

THE CREDIT LYONNAIS, BOMBAY BRANCH, sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on all parts of the world, negotiates and collects Bills and Coupons on all English and Foreign Towns.

Issues Letters of Credit.

Exchanges Foreign money, executes investment orders in Securities on all Indian, English, or Foreign Stock Exchanges and gives information when required on Securities dealt in on the Leading Stock Exchanges.

Receives Securities for safe custody and collects interests or dividends on same on conditions to be arranged.

Grants advances in current account, or for fixed periods on Paper, approved stock, shares, bullion, and produce.

Opens deposit accounts, allowing interest on the daily balances.

Receives fixed deposits on terms to be ascertained on application.

COMMERCIAL AND LAND MORTGAGE BANK (LIMITED),

MADRAS.

ESTABLISHED 1885.

CAPITAL..... 25 LAKHS.

BRANCHES, BOMBAY, RAWULPINDI.

SUB-AGENCIES:—MURREE. (APRIL TO OCTOBER) AND RANIPETTAI.

Summarised Statement of Affairs, Half-year ended 30th June, 1896.

LIABILITIES.

Capital paid-up	Rs.	24,57,360	0 0
Reserves and Rest	"	11,06,292	9 8
Deposits	"	1,04,06,910	7 10
Bills and Acceptances	"	5,86,358	14 2
Sundries	"	1,09,086	13 3
Total	Rs.	1,46,65,948	12 11

ASSETS.

Cash	Rs.	21,81,516	2 4
Loans, Bills and Advances	"	1,14,85,063	11
Government and other Authorised Securities	"	4,30,672	14 4
Properties and Dead Stock	"	2,32,936	3 7
Bills Contra, and Sundries	"	322,301	13 3
Total	Rs.	1,46,65,948	12 11

N.B.—Fixed Deposits received at 4½ per cent. per annum or 12 months, and at 4 per cent. for 9 months.

By Order of the Board,
F. D. STRANACK,
Manager.

Bombay, 1st July, 1896.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA,

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL..... £800,000
RESERVE FUND £350,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES:

Bombay.	Singapore.	Hankow.
Calcutta.	Bangkok.	Foochow.
Rangoon.	Kwala Lumpor.	Manila.
Colombo.	Batavia.	Yokohama.
Penang.	Sourabaya.	Kobe.
Thalping.	Hongkong.	Tientsin.
Deli (Sumatra).	Shanghai.	

BANKERS:—

THE BANK OF ENGLAND. THE CITY BANK, LIMITED. THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LIMITED.

The Corporation buy and receive for collection Bills of Exchange; grant Drafts payable at the above Agencies and Branches; and transact general banking business connected with the East.

FIXED DEPOSITS

are received for TWELVE MONTHS AT 4 PER CENT. per annum and for shorter periods at rates which may be ascertained on application.

T. FRASER,
Acting Agent.

Bombay Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....Yens 12,000,000 = Rs. 24,000,000
PAID UP CAPITAL..... " 4,500,000 = " 9,000,000
RESERVE FUND..... " 4,130,000 = " 8,260,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

Kobé, London, Lyons, New York, San Francisco Hawaii, Shanghai, and Hongkong.

BANKERS—The LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK; The UNION BANK of LONDON: THE PARIS BANK, LIMITED.

BOMBAY AGENCY:

LIBERAL INTEREST allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNT, and FIXED DEPOSITS, on Terms to be learned on application.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on JAPAN, and the Chief Commercial places in the World.

H. BEKKEY,
Agent, pro. tem.

Sirdar's Palace, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay.

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

HEAD OFFICE:—14, Rue Bergere.

LONDON 52:—Threadneedle Street, E.C.

LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER.

CAPITAL ...Frs. 100,000,000. (£4,000,000).

LONDON BANKERS:—

BANK OF ENGLAND.

UNION BANK OF LONDON.

BRANCHES in all Principal Towns of France, Calcutta, Bombay, Tunis, San Francisco, Chicago, New Orleans, Melbourne, Sydney, Tamatave and Tananarivo.

Current Deposit Accounts are opened, and Interest is allowed on Daily Balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 100,000. Rates to be learnt on application.

Special arrangements may be obtained on application.

Deposit Accounts are Opened for Fixed Periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued payable at any of the other Commercial Towns of the World.

The Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris beg to draw the attention of Travellers to its Letter of Credit Department in Paris at the Branch Office, 5, Place de l'Opera, in the very centre of the fashionable quarter of Paris, on the Boulevards, facing the Grand Opera, and within easy reach of the principal Hotels, Theatres, and Shops.

Writing and Reading Rooms, Telephone, all necessary arrangements for receiving and despatching Correspondence, exchanging Money, letting Safes or parts thereof wherein travellers can deposit valuables which they do not wish to keep in the hotels, further Strong Rooms for the storage of heavy luggage, etc.

Dividends, Coupons, etc., on Government Paper, and other Stocks cashed for customers without charge if remitted Home through the Bank.

Loans and Cash Credits granted on Government Paper, Gold, Silver, and Produce.

G. HENRIOT,
Manager.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £170,000

HEAD OFFICE:

47, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

BRANCHES:

Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives Deposits fixed for 12 months at 4 per cent.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no interest is allowed when the sum required does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and America. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

NOVELTIES IN DRESS FABRICS FOR MORNING VISITING DINNER BALL GOWNS

BADHAM, PILE & CO., LTD.,

BOMBAY.

NOTICE! TO SMOKERS NOTICE!!

ANY one who wants fresh REAL HAVANA or MANILA CIGARS must obtain them from the undermentioned well-known Firm, who have just Unpacked a Consignment of the Celebrated Cigars Manufactured by BOCK & Co., of Havana.

SPECIALITIES.

			Rs.	as.
Savoys, Regalia de Preferencia in boxes of	50	per box	14	0
Monicos, Regalia de Preferencia	50	"	15	0
Dainties, Superiores de la Vuelta Abajo	25	"	10	0
Donotos Superiores de la Vuelta Abajo	25	"	12	8

MANILA CIGARS.

"FLOR DE LA ISABELA" FACTORY.

				Cash. Rs. as.
These can be recommended as good smokes:—				
Regalia Antonio Lopez in boxes of	50	with rings	per box	11 0
Non Plus Ultra	do.	50	do.	" 9 0
Isabels	do.	50	do.	" 7 8
Exquisitas	do.	50	do.	" 7 0
Princessas (small size)	do.	50	do.	" 5 0
Little Devils	do.	50	do.	" 3 0
Club Londres	do.	100	do.	" 7 0
Nuevo Habano Especial	do.	100		" 6 0
Habano 1A (extra large size)		100		" 6 8
Habano 2A	do.	100		" 4 8
Cartado 1A	do.	100		" 6 8

The above cigars, imported by us only, are of excellent quality, and rich in flavour forming a delightful and popular smoke. A discount of 10 per cent. is allowed for all the above on orders for 500 cigars and upwards.

TH. VAFIADIS & CO.,
GENERAL TOBACCONISTS,
20, ESPLANADE ROAD, BOMBAY.

TREZUKA

THE NEW BRAIN AND NERVE FOOD.

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BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 7h. 34m.; Sun sets, 5h. 31m. High water, 9·3m., 19·37m. Low water, 3·47m., 3·28a.
New Year's Day: Bank Holiday.
New Year's Proclamation parades, 7-30 a.m.
Tivoli Theatre, Taylor-Carrington Company.
Music at the Yacht Club, 5-45 p.m.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The steamers Nowshera and City of London entered the dock yesterday, and the steamer Karachi left it on Wednesday; the steamer Shastri left it yesterday.

VICTORIA DOCK.—The steamers Branksome Hall and Lawada entered the dock yesterday.

POLO.—There will a game, to-day, at 4-30 p.m.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Singapore, China, and Japan, per extra s. s. Britadisl, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 7 p.m., to-morrow (Saturday).

PROW CAPSIZED.—A prow, laden with forty tons of coal, belonging to Messrs. Shepherd, while sailing, capsized off Cross Island, at 6 o'clock, on Tuesday evening.

DEATH OF THE NABOB OF SACHIN.—The untimely and deplorable death is announced of H. H. the Nabob Saheb Sidi Abdul Kadir Khan Bahadur of Sachin.

The Khoja Debating Society.—The third bi annual general meeting of the society will be held to-morrow (Saturday), at the Khoja Muljibhai Jivaraj Library, at 11 a.m., Dr. Ismail Jan Mahomed has kindly consented to preside on the occasion.

KHADAMBA FAMINE ORPHANAGE FUND.—H. H. the Raja Sarabhoji Venkatesa Lachaman Rao Bahadur of Jeypore, through Messrs. Sultan and Company, Madras, has contributed Rs. 30 to the above fund.

ALL SAINTS', MALABAR HILL.—The Chaplain at All Saints' takes the opportunity of thanking all those ladies and gentlemen that so kindly contributed flowers for the Christmas decorations.

ACCIDENT TO AN OCTOGENARIAN.—On the night of the 27th ultimo, one Jetha Hurjiwan, a Hindu, aged eighty years, was walking along the Bhuleshwar Road, when he was knocked down and run over by a carriage, sustaining a fracture of the left leg. The injured man was removed to the J. J. Hospital, but up to the present he is unable to give any information as to how or by what carriage he was knocked down.

ACCIDENT IN THE P. AND O. DOCKS.—Nana Rukmiá, a Hindu, aged thirty years, residing at Belvedere Road, and employed as a labourer in the P. and O. Docks, was, on Wednesday last, lowering a ladder from the side of a steam-ship, which was leaving the dockyard, when he was accidentally injured by the ladder catching, and fir king him into the basin. He was picked up unconscious and conveyed to the J. J. Hospital, where it was discovered that he had sustained a compound fracture of the skull.

MUSIC AT THE YACHT CLUB.—By kind permission of Colonel Cooper and Officers, the Band of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, under the direction of Bandmaster Mullins, will play the following programme at the Royal Bombay Yacht Club, this evening, at 5-45 :—

March	The Colonel's Parade	Ord Hume.
Overture	Il Seraglio	Mozart.
Two Dances	(a) Venetian	Solomon.
	(b) Russian	Glinka.
Selection	Madame Larchidue	Offenbach.
Cornet Solo	On Hungarian National Airs	Michiels.
Valse	Vesper Bar Prize Waltz	Bousquet.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

DARING BURGLARY AT MAHIM.—Ramji Daji, a Hindu, residing in the Mahim woods, off Lady Jamsetji Road, reported to the police, on Wednesday morning, that, about 2 o'clock that morning, three men broke into his room by removing five iron bars of a window, and after forcing open a wooden box, made off with twenty currency notes for Rs. 10 each, and gold and silver ornaments, valued at Rs. 220. In all property collectively valued at Rs. 420. The complainant stated that when the burglars commenced breaking open the box, he awoke and cried out for help, when he was seized him by the throat and threw him down. In the meanwhile the others broke open the box, and having extracted the property, they all ran away.

SUICIDE UNDER FEVER DELIRIUM.—An inquiry was held, yesterday, at the J. J. Hospital, by Mr. Turner, the coroner, on view of the body of Moona, a Hindu, aged about thirty-two years, a servant in the employ of a manufacturer of plaster of Paris cornices, residing at Kanji Street. Deceased had no relations in Bombay, and lived in a room hired by his master for his business. About two months ago deceased had fever, but he got well. A few days ago fever returned, and day by day increased in severity and on Monday night he became dilirious and talked to himself. On the following morning, Moona, while under the influence of dilirium, jumped out of a window on the first floor, on to the road below, sustaining fracture of the skull. He was picked up unconscious, and removed to the J. J. Hospital, where he died on the following evening. A verdict of suicide under dilirium of fever was returned by the jury.

KNOCKED DOWN BY A TRAM CAR HORSE.—A coroner's inquiry was held, yesterday, at the J. J. Hospital, on view of the body of Sudderji, a Hindu widow, aged sixty years, residing at Falkland Road. Deceased was a little hard of hearing, and had a defective sight. About 5 o'clock, on Sunday evening last, she went to a sweet-meat shop at the junction of Khotwadi Tenth Lane and Grant Road, and having purchased some sweets, proceeded to cross the Grant Road. Just then a tram car came from the direction of Grant Road Railway station, and a victoria from the Falkland Road. Deceased tried to get out of the way of the victoria, and in doing so came in front of the tram car horse, with the result that she was knocked down by the horse's head, sustaining several injuries to her body. She was conveyed to the J. J. Hospital, where gangrene of the left leg followed, and she died on Wednesday evening. A verdict of accidental death from gangrene was returned by the jury.

PECULIAR WAY OF GETTING HIS WAGES.—At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Hack charged Algoo Mahadoo, a Hindu, lately a servant in the employ of one Pudmal Surpal, residing at Mahim, before Mr. W. R. Hamilton, Second Presidency Magistrate, with theft as a servant of two currency notes for Rs. 10 each, one for Rs. 5, and Rs. 13 in cash, belonging to his master, the complainant. The accused had been in the service of the complainant for the last ten months at Rs. 4 per mensem. On the 24th ultimo, he absconded with the money belonging to his master, who made a report to the police, and the servant was arrested on the following day with Rs. 35-8 in possession. The complainant stated that he owed the month's wages to the accused. The accused in his defence said that he had been serving the complainant for the last ten months at Rs. 4 per month, As the complainant did not pay him his salary for the last two months, he stole the money from his box and went away. He was arrested next day by the police with Rs. 35-8 in his possession, the balance being spent by him in purchasing cloth, which he offered to the god in the Mombadevie Temple. His Worship convicted the accused and sentenced him to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

THROWN BEFORE A TRAM CAR.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, touching the death of Ancha Saroopji, a Brahmin water-carrier aged thirty years, residing at Lohar Street. On Monday afternoon, a number of horses belonging to the Government Remount, were being entrained at the Victoria Terminus, when one of the animals got loose and bolted along the Fort Street, knocking down the deceased, who was waiting in front of the Bazaar Gate Police Station, in company with another Brahmin water-carrier, and throwing him in front of a tram car, which was coming from the Elphinstone Circle and going in the direction of the Bori Bunder Station. The driver at once applied the brake, but the accident happened so suddenly that before he could bring the car to a standstill, the first wheel passed over the deceased's left leg, fracturing it at the ankle. When the car was stopped, the hind wheel was against him, and in order to extricate him, the car was lifted up. He was placed in a victoria and conveyed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where it was ascertained that besides the fracture of the left leg, he had sustained multiple injuries on various parts of the body. He was detained in the hospital, but never came to himself again, and died on Wednesday afternoon. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

PASSENGERS BY THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAMER IMPERATOR.

The following is the list of passengers proceeding to-d (Friday), 1st January, at 7-30 a.m. from the Vic Dock, No. 7, per Austrian Lloyd's s. s. Imp ator, Captain G. Nicolich :—

FOR BRINDISI, TRIESTE AND VENICE.

Bros, Miss E G	Michelich, Mr G
Brown, Miss E M	Morrison, Miss G
Carlsen, Miss	Powell, Miss
rand, Rev C S	Roma, Dr and M.
Reed, Mr	Sloss, Mr C
Ridings, Miss	Vassitart, Miss
Tunio, Miss	Wimmer, Mr R

FOR SUEZ.

Chard, Miss L	Dwyer, Capt A G
Dammie, Mr	Michaelis, Mr
Dorse, Capt	

FOR PORT SAID.

Miranche, Mr J	Spencer, Mr G E

THE IMPENDING FAMINE.

AT the date of the last official report the total daily average number of persons upon relief-works was upwards of 112,000. In addition, 38,700 non-working children were sustained at the relief-works, and 3,000 persons were gratuitously relieved in villages. The works in progress under the Public Works Agency were: 13 in Bijapur, 9 in Sholapur, 12 in Ahmednagar, 3 in Poona, 9 in Nasik, 3 in Satara, and 2 in Belgaum. In addition, there were in progress under Civil Agency, eight works in Bijapur, the same number in Sholapur, and 2 in Belgaum. Ordinary works carried on as relief-works in Dharwar were giving employment to 713 persons.

In view of the existing scarcity the inhabitants of the 25 villages in the Belgaum district, upon whom, owing to dacoities, additional police were quartered last September, have been relieved by Government of one-fourth of the cost of the force, and will now only be responsible for three-fourths of the same.

THE DECCAN SABHA'S REPRESENTATION.

Replying to the Representation of the Deccan Sabha on the subject of the present famine, Government has sent in the following reply :—

Revenue Department (Famine.)

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 21, dated 23rd instant, and to state that the observations contained in it have been carefully considered.

"2. The Governor in Council observes with satisfaction the Sabha's recognition of the facts that Government are bound to rely on the information received from their own officers, that non-official information, however carefully compiled, is liable to be mistaken in small matters of detail, and that it is inexpedient to add to the work or anxieties of the officers of Government by requiring them to examine statements made without adequate verification. It seems nevertheless that the Sabha has failed to clearly apprehend the distinction pointed out in my letter No. 1039, dated 17th instant, between information which in the circumstances can be of no use to Government and information which may be useful. It being assumed that official reports must be accepted—provided there are no reasonable grounds for suspecting their accuracy—non-official statements on the precise points dealt with in these reports must be discarded if they differ, and are superfluous if they agree. I am to repeat that the Governor in Council will welcome any trustworthy information on other matters which is likely to be helpful and will be grateful for the co-operation of public bodies or of private individuals in any manner which is calculated to serve the public interest.

"3. Government are unable to accept the view that complaints of misapplication of the provisions of the Code stand on a different footing from complaints regarding any other grievances. The statement that the mass of labourers thas flock to the relief works are so ignorant and helpless that the usual remedies of appealing to the superior officers virtually cannot be put in force by them does not seem to be based on any experience. These officers periodically visit the works and labourers on such works have never been found to be backward in claiming concessions or complaining of hardships real or imaginary. It is a main part of the duty of supervising officers to see that the provisions of the Code are properly applied, and His Excellency in Council declines to set these officers aside and take upon himself the performance of their functions. As already pointed out, the occasion is one not for a relaxation of the rules but for a specially strict enforcement of them. If Government took congeizance of complaints of misapplication of the provisions of the Code without requiring previous application to supervising officers, the number of representations in existing circumstances would probably be enormous; of them a very large proportion would under the proper procedure never reach Government; the time of officers already fully employed would be taken up to no good purpose in making reports; and there would result very great delay, which otherwise would be avoided in correcting mistakes.

"4. In this connection I am to refer to the statement that 'the payments to children under seven on Sundays are admittedly not yet made.' If the meaning of this statement is that Government's order as to payment is made on accounts of children only for six days in the week, I am to say that it is incorrect. Many of the returns show distinctly that the figures include allowances to children for Sunday, and it is believed that this course is generally followed. If in any case a mistake is made in this matter, it will in accordance with the principle above explained be rectified on application to the proper authority."

J. MONTEATH,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

THE PRESIDENCY ASSOCIATION'S REPORT.

(Continued from yesterday's *Bombay Gazette*.)

I give below the rates of the Gadag market on the 16th instant :—

Jowari	6½ to 8 seers,*
Bajri	10 "
Dalu	7½ "
Wheat	6 "
Udid	6½ "
Mug	6 "
Gram	5 "
Linseed	5½ "
Sesamum	5½ "
Castor-seeds	6½ "
Turidal	5 "
Kardai	8½ to 9 seers.

Sweet oil at Rs. 4-3 to Rs. 4-8 a maund of 24 pounds

I have quoted these to show that there cannot be much difference between the market rates at Gadag and those prevailing in other places.

The weather in these parts, where I am touring, is very good indeed, and it is this which keeps up the health of the labourers in their worst days. About February extreme heat will commence to tell on their constitution, and undesired results will ensue.

Sholapur, 17th December 1896.

I have come here from Hotgi with a view to find out what changes have taken place in Sholapur since my first visit.

I am glad to find that the inconveniences of the weavers have been minimized to a certain extent by the Collector and the Ex. Engineer bringing the Relief Camp nearer Sholapur, *i. e.*, at the Thalgi Nala, as recommended by me. This facilitates their going back in the evening to their homes for rest in the night, and saves them from exposure in the cold winter nights.

Another satisfactory thing I have found is, that the Municipality of Sholapur have at last experimentally opened a weaving shed for a few families. This work was commenced on the 4th instant, and from 4th to the 15th instant, both days inclusive, there were, on work, 17 males and 193 females, who were paid only Rs. 14-13-0 as their wages. They have turned out 4 Khaddis—rough cloth for the use of famine people—and done also other work of a kindred nature. The average labour paid per day in this shed is extremely low, i.e., 1 anna and 1·81-213 ples, and I have made the recommendation to the Municipal authorities to raise the wages.

The third item of satisfactory work is the distribution of ready-made bread every day to persons seeking relief in this way, on account of their halplessness.

This अन्नछत्र, as it may be called, was started at my instance by the Bombay Bhattias named in my first report. The daily expenditure in this Chatram is Rs. 13 only at present, the details being Rs. 10 worth Jowari of a superior kind (I send you a sample of the same by separate post); Fuel worth Ans. 12; Female Cooks, Ans. 12; grinding charges, Rs. 1-4, and vegetables, including oil, salt, &c., &c., As. 5.

If famine labourers are given the work of cooking and grinding, there will be still some reduction in the daily expenditure. The disabled—such as the blind, old and destitute—are given 1½ bread every day. Similar quantity is given to the emigrants travelling via Sholapur, to famine stricken districts, and others. I couldn't be present at the time of distribution. All one has to see by way of precaution is that this charity is properly dealt out to the needy and helpless people, and not to able bodied professional beggars. Food is thus given daily to 400 to 500 people, and arrangements are in readiness to give the same to the increased numbers when required.

Government have given out that emigration has ceased, and that the people are returning to their villages. This cannot be true. I have already given you statistics about emigrants from the Bijapur District, and I give a few cases below about the Sholapur District. A friend has, since the 15th of December 1896, kept a Register of Emigrants from other villages passing by Sholapur into the Nizam's Territory, and has also very kindly given the people and their cattle some pecuniary aid wherewith to buy food and fodder. The tabular statement given on the page below will speak for itself. It will appear therefrom that 732 persons, with 807 cattle in all, immigrated from Sangola and Pandharpur Talukas of the Sholapur District and from Jat and Mangalwedhia (Patwardhan's) Native States and from Bijapur. The friend has paid these people, as sustenance allowances, Rs. 87-3-9, at the rate of anna 1 or thereabout per person and per cattle.

The kind of arrangement that our friend, no other than Mr. Veerchand Deepchand, has made should have been adopted by Government. But for reasons given by me in my first report about Sholapur, it would appear that no satisfactory arrangement can at present be expected from those quarters.

Mr Deshmukh's helplessness as a working Collector of the District, with unfavourable surroundings, has already been alluded to by me. I now understand that the Commissioner, C.D., and the Superintendent of police have won the day. Mr. Deshmukh has received a telegraphic order to hand over the charge of his duties to-morrow morning to Mr. Wein and to proceed to Karwar, where he is transferred. The reasons of this transfer are not known yet officially, but can be easily imagined.

Mr. Deshmukh, as District Magistrate, was of opinion that the military force, being no longer required, should be withdrawn. Mr. Thatcher, the Superintendent of Police, was of a contrary opinion. The Commissioner, C. D., Mr. Spence, sided with the latter officer, and Dame Rumour says the present order of Mr. Deshmukh's transfer is the result.

To return to my account at the Sheigi Naka, a mile from Sholapur, there are at present 2,140 labourers mostly of the weaver class. Of these 411 are males, 1,088 females, 607 working children (and besides these 870 non-working children, which do not come in the calculation given); 33 mukadams, 1 postman, 2 store peons and 12 carmen. The amount of wages, as previously reported, do not differ now. The mischief lies in the classification of labourers, in the A. B. C. and D classes of the Famine Code, and in the measurement of work done, and in the assessment of wages according to the quanity of work done. If this work be done by a sympathetic responsible officer and the provisions of the Famine Code, so far as they are applicable in this connection are worked in the *spirit* of that Code, and not *to the letter*, there will be less room for complaints on the part of the labourers.

Now the only question as to whether the famine wages are enough or insufficient for proper maintenance of a famine-stricken peasantry, is one which will have to be fought by your Association with authorities in very high circles, and the subordinate officers need not be troubled by us on this account. Mr. Veerchand has, besides the 4 blocks referred to in my first report, added 2 more weaving blocks, with 60 looms more. He, Mr. Lakhmidass Khimji and the Sholapur Panjrapole Committee have been working in co-operation, to give relief to famished cattle. Mrs. Veerchand, with her generous heart, gave Rs. 200-8-0 in charity to buy the 139 cattle from the hands of the butchers. The Panjrapole Committee have recently bought a Kuran (grazing land) for Rs. 3,400, and sent about 1,500 cattle there. The Expenditure on these is considerable, and is all met out of private charitye. This is highly creditable to the persons concerned.

Mr. Warad has commenced the work of his new mill, and this gives employment nearer home to a few weavers, on earthwork.

The Hon'ble Sir. Tilak had been to Sholapur lately, and has made a proposal to Government to this effect. Government should advance a lump sum of Rs. 2,00,000, and a half or thereabouts for providing the Sholapur weavers with their own craft-work, and the loss, if any eventually, should be met by Government and the Sholapur merchants in proportions proposed, Mr. Tilak undertaking to raise 20,000 or so, the amounts of loss estimated to fall to the share of the Sholapur merchants. Let us see how this proposal is countenanced by Government. The proposal I have submitted to you seems more feasible.

From day to day, for the period of a week, I have been moving about from place to place and have had no rest, bodily or mental. I couldn't settle the programme of tour beforehand, because, in my opinion, surprise visits paid to parts were famine is very keenly felt, result in fruitful enquiries.

As I will be away for a month or so, I will pay a flying visit to Poona while going to Nagar from Sholapur.

The Doctor of the Station has discovered here today a case of imported plague. I am told again it has proved fatal. It is surprizing to find how with all the precautions taken, people affected by the plague manage to go to distant places by rail stealthily.

The cold season has set in, the famine labourers have not been yet located into the huts, and even if they be so provided, the pinching cold cannot be prevented from getting in because the huts are all made of bamboo-matting. Fancy what the miseries of such people must be particularly their women and children, under such adverse circumstances. Without sufficient food, without sufficient raiment, away from their houses and in the thorny and stone-studded jungles and hilly tracts they pass their nights and toilsome days in despair. What else could they do? Only last night impulsive language in which I was often addressed by the Mukadams and insulted with kicks, and this picture I am drawing of them in haste would be but imperfect.

I have learnt from a very reliable source that a most pitiable case had recently occurred. People from the Mangalwedhe State were migrating through Sholapur into the Moglais, and while walking to the town (Sholapur) a lady from among them gave birth to a child on the road. A gentleman who sympathized with her in this her distress took her with the child to the Hospital. Doctor attempts were made to prevent the mother and child from death, but impatient for at least 10 or 15 days, the period of stay necessary, considering the state of her weak health, but all entreaties were without effect, because the other people of her village, having nothing to eat and expecting to get their bread soon on going into the Mogial, would not consent to wait for her in Sholapur, and she, in her turn, could not conveniently remain alone, leaving her associates of the village.

I have myself noticed cases of women who have recently delivered, and yet who had no recourse but to go about to collect scraps for their bread. A few Mukadams, who have no discriminating powers, compel such mothers (suckling their young children on breast) to do the hard work of breaking stones. I have personally spoken about this harsh treatment to the Overseer in charge, and it is hoped that these unfortunate women will be given full wages, without being required to do hard work.

These are remediable cases, if only supervisors of works do their duty well.

The presence of a famine officer (special) without previous notice, at all the relief works would cure cases of dereliction like those I have observed, and you would, therefore, do well to move Government to appoint at an early date a special famine officer, who may be expected to work most sympathetically

BOMBAY SEASON REPORTS.

The following Season Reports for the week ending 29th December were published in yesterday's *Government Gazette*.

Karachi.—River at Kotri on 28th, 5 feet against 5 feet 10 inches same date last year. Rabi crops flourishing but slightly damaged by insects in Kohistan and Jati talukas. Agricultural stock in good condition.

Shikarpur.—Rabi cultivation flourishing. Cattle healthy except in three talukas. Prices 13 seers per rupee. No variation in the week under report. Fodder scarce.

Hyderabad.—Rattai continues. Rabi cultivation in flourishing condition. Cattle healthy except in one taluka. Prices unchanged, average selling price being wheat 8, jowari 12 and bajri 12 seers per rupee in the district.

Upper Sind Frontier.—Kharif thrashing and rabi sowing continue. Unbar, Sukkur canals flowing. Fodder sufficient. Prices unchanged. Cattle healthy except in Kashmor Taluka. Mustard crops damaged by locusts in Thul Taluka.

Thar and Parkar.—Kharif cultivation 12 annas. Rabi flourishing. Cattle healthy except in one taluka.

Ahmedabad.—(For week ending 26th December 1896).—Rabi cultivation in prosperous state. Cotton picking going on. Fodder supply sufficient. Agricultural stock in fair condition. Prices of food-grains steady: jowari 10, bajri 10, wheat 7 1-2, rice, second sort, 8 seers per rupee.

Panch Mahals.—Rain during weeks 3 cents at Jhalod, 8 cents at Ador and 11 cents at Halol. Price of maize 14 seers at Jhalod, 10 seers at Dohad and 13 1-2 seers at Godhra; of bajri 10 1-2 seers at Kalol and 9 1-2 seers at Godhra. Standing crops in good condition. Wheat cozing into ear. Cattle healty. Fodder sufficient. Labourers find sufficient employment in field work, on railway and ordinary publick works.

Kaira.—(For week ending 26th December 1896).—Rain during week maximum 10 cents at Borsad, minimum 2 cents at Mehmadabad, average for the district 9–1/4 cents. Total rainfall during season maximum at Nadiad 52 inches 33 cents, minimum at Mehmadabad 33 inches 64 cents, average for the district 43 inches 27/8 cents. Rabi crops in fairly good condition. Fodder supply sufficient though somewhat dear. Agricultural stock healthy. Average Government seers of grains per rupee bajri 9, rice 8, wheat 7. Prices continue normal.

Broach.—Rainfall during week, maximum being 4 inches 60 cents in Jetha mahal Hansot, minimum 4 cents in Jambusar. Total rainfall during season maximum being 36 inches 19 cents in Broach, minimum 25 inches 70 cents in Jambusar. Picking of early cotton in progress in Jambusar Taluka. Standing crops in fair condition. The recent rain was somewhat beneficial to rabi crops. Prospects and probable outturn of crops fair. Condition of fodder supply good and agricultural stock healthy. Fall in the price of food-grains this week from ½ lb. to 1 lb. In Jambusar and Ankleswar talukas and petha mahal Hansot. Prices stationary in Broach and Amod talukas.

Surat.—(For week ending 26th December 1896).—Slight rain in Chorasi 4 cents, in Mandvi 5 cents and in Bardoli 10 cents. Total rainfall during season maxium at Chorasi 78 inches 32 cents, minimum at Chorasi 39 inches 32 cents. Reaping of jowari in progress. Early cotton will be slightly injured by the last rain and by cloudy weather in some places. Rabi crops thriving. Outturn of jowar is expected from 10 to 12 anns and that of rabi crops from 8 to 12 annas. Condition of agricultural stock good. The price of jowar has fallen by 4 annas in Jalalpur and by 2 annas in Chorasi per Bengal maund, while it has risen by 4 annas in Olpad and by 2 annas in Bulsar; it is steady in Bardoli, Chikhli, Pardy and Mandvi. Current rate of food-grains (jowar) at Olpad 10 seers 10 chhataks, Chorasi 12 seers, Bardoli 11 seers 8 chhataks, Jalalpur 11 seers 13 chhataks, Chikhli 10 seers 28 chhataks, Bulsar 10 seers 10 chhataks, Pardi 10 seers 12 chhataks, and Mandvi 13 seers per rupee.

Khandesh.—Rain during week at Dhulia 1 inch 28 cents, average fall in the district 6 cents. Total rainfall during season at Dhulia 29 inches 77 cents, average fall in the district 24 inches 60 cents. Harvesting of kharif and sowing of rabi in bagayat land continue. Standing crops in fair condition. Cotton picking in progress in two talukas. Grass scanty in parts. Agricultural stock in fairly good condition except in two talukas. Prices of food-grain per rupee during week, wheat 7 seers 5 chhataks, bajri 7 seers 14 chhataks, jowari 9 seers 1 chhatak, rice 5 seers 15 chhataks against 6 seers 12 chhataks, 7 seers 2 chhataks, 6 seers 8 chhataks, and 7 seers 7 chhataks last week. Number of relief works in progress 8. Number of persons on work 5,017; on gratuitous relief 2,369. Besides the above there are 7 Local Fund road works in progress and number of men working is 2,920.

Nasik.—(For week ending 28th December 1896).—Total rainfall during season 33 inches 34 cents. Rain urgently wanted throughout the district. Reaping of kharif crops complete. Sowing of rabi complete in bagayat lands, but stopped in jirayat lands for want of rain. Season for sowing almost over. Fodder scarce in most talukas. Prices fairly stationary, bajri 9·50, jowari 9·01, nagli 11·15 seers per rupee. Cattle healthy except in parts of Dindori and Niphad talukas. Number of people on works opened departmentally by District and Taluka Local Boards 2,503 and on Public Works Department relief works 12,136.

Colaba (Bombay).—Abnormal temperature 3° warm on 23rd, 2° warm on 24th and 27th, nil on 25th, 26th, and 28th, and 1° cool on 29th. Vapour in air excessive on 23rd, 24th, 27th and 28th, defective on 25th and normal on 26th and 29th. Abnormal wind northerly on 25th and 29th and southerly on 27th. Wind normal on all other days.

Thana.—Threshing of kharif and warkas crops almost finished. Sowing of rabi crops finished. State of rabi crops good in four talukas and not very satisfactory in the rest.

Kolaba.—Rain during week 15 cents at Alibag and none elsewhere. Rabi crops doing well. Threshing completed in Mahad, in progress elsewhere. Rab cutting continues. Prices same as last week. Fodder supply sufficient. Agricultural stock healthy.

Ratnagiri.—Slight rain during week, 28 cents in Sangameshvar and 5 cents in Chiplun. Sowing of summer crops in progress. Slight rise in the prices of food-grains in Devgad and Khed talukas. Cattle healthy except in Devgad, Rajapur, Ratnagiri and Sangameshvar talukas.

Poona.—Slight rain during week, 27 cents in Indapur, 32 cents in Bhimthadi, 20 cents in Khed, 8 cents in Sirur and 16 cents in the Dhond Petha of the Bhimthadi Taluka. Total rainfall during season at district head quarter station 43 inches 41 cents. Rain insufficient throughout district. Standing rabi crops in some fields are in fair condition, including those lately sown in places where there was sufficient moisture. Fodder insufficient. Agricultural stock in poor condition. Prices stationary except in Bhimthadi Taluka, where there is a slight fall in the prices of jowari, bajri and wheat.

Ahmednagar.—Rain during week at Nagar 70 cents and at Rahuri 60 cents. Sowing of wheat and gram in bagayat lands still continues in two talukas. First sown crops in fair condition. New sown crops require rain. Fodder supply insufficient. Condition of cattle good in some places and in others unsatisfactory. District average price of jowari 9 seers 77 tolas. Number on relief works 3,078 including non-working children. Number on gratuitous relief 4.

Sholapur.—(For week ending 26th December 1896).—Rain during week at Barsi 6 cents, at Pandharpur 3 cents. Total rainfall during season at Sholapur 15 inches 87 cents, Barsi 16 inches 12 cents, Madha 8 inches 68 cents, Karmala 10 inches 28 cents, Pandharpur 10 inches 90 cents, Sangola 8 inches 9 cents and Malsiras 8 inches 34 cents. Rain wanted throughout the district. Rabi crops lately sown require rain urgently. Standing crops are doing well. Fodder quite insufficient. Agricultural stock in poor condition. Slight fall in the prices of jowari in Barsi, Karmala, Pandharpur and Sangola talukas. Average price of jowari 11 seers 10 chhataks.

Bijapur.—Slight rain during week in four talukas, varying from 9 to 48 cents; none in Indi, Bagalkot, Badami and Hungund talukas. Rabi crops withering. Fodder supply scanty and dear. State of agricultural stock pitiable. Water-supply failing in Indi and Hungund talukas. Slight fall in the price of jowari in Indi, Bijapur, Bagalkot and Badami talukas and rise in Sindgi and Bagevari talukas.

Belgaum.—Rainfall during week varying from 1 inch 57 cents to 3 inches 46 cents at Murgod. Rain beneficial in Belgaum to cold weather crops; elsewhere insufficient. Prices slightly lower, jowari being 11¼, bajri 11 1-2 and rice 8 1-2 seers per rupee. Persons employed during week on test works 10,813. Non-working children 3,157. Recipients of gratuitous dole 193.

Dharwar.—Rain during week 1 inch 99 cents in Navalgund, 42 cents in Nargund, 23 cents in Ron, 15 cents in Gadag, 40 cents in Dharwar, 37 cents in Hubli, 26 cents in Kundgol and 5 cents in Kanobnur. Rain beneficial to rabi crops and further sowings. Kharif, jowari and rice harvest in progress. Condition of standing rabi crops fair in Ron, Mundargi and Nargund. More rain badly wanted. Condition of agriculturists fair, of labourers and artizans middling, of cattle indifferent in the affected parts. Food-grains and water-supply generally sufficient. Fodder insufficient in the affected parts. Number of labourers on ordinary Civil and Public Works Agency test works 1,277, besides 1,243 labourers employed by contractors. Prices of jowari 12 seers and 4 chhataks against 13 seers and 3 chhataks last week.

Kanara.—Light rain in six stations, maximum being 55 cents, in Yellapur and minimum 1 cent in Ankola. Sowing of second crop progressing in Ahvaghat talukas. Preparation of ground for second crop continues. Garden and agricultural stock good.

Rajputana.—Watering of wheat and sugarcane, cotton picking and threshing of cotton in progress. Average prices of bajri, jowari, wheat and gram 8 seers 60 tolas, 10 seers 40 tolas, 7 seers 60 tolas, and 8 seers respectively per Rupee. No rise or fall since last week.

Wadhwan.—Rain during week 3 cents, total rainfall during season 18 inches 60 cents. Price of bajri 9 and jowari 11 seers respectively per rupee Rabi crops good. Weather cold.

Baroda.—Rain during week 19 cents. Total fall during sea son 42 inches 12 cents. Agricultural stock healthy and standing crops in fair condition. Cotton and tur crop likely to suffer owing to cloudy weather. Fodder scarce. Prices of bajri 17, wheat 15, rice superior 13, inferior 18 pounds respectively per British rupee. No relief works in progress.

THE CROPS.

The vast majority of the people of India look upon rice as their staple food, but in the Upper Provinces there are many millions who consume wheaten flour, and it is therefore important to note what are the prospects of the wheat-crop for 1896-97. The official memorandum on the subject was published last week and a brief abstract already appeared in our columns, but we may well notice the returns more in detail. In the case of the Punjab the forecast is supposed to be a final one; but as sowings can still be made if showers of rain fall, the figures must be considered as liable still to modification. The area usually put under wheat in the northern province is about 7,000,000 acres. In 1895-96 it was about 6,850,000 acres and during the current year the average has fallen to a little below 5,347,000. This was at the end of November, by which time the sowings are usually completed. In the North West Provinces and Oudh the average annual acreage is much less than in the Punjab; it amounts to about 4½ million acres. This year there have not been more than 3½ million acres sown, the falling off being thus 30 per cent, a very serious matter. Moreover both in the Punjab and the United Provinces, though the prospects are so far good, a good deal depends upon the winter-rains. If these fail the crops in all but irrigated lands will be lost, and the yield will thus be very far indeed below the average. In any case as there are three million acres less under cultivation, compared with last year, we cannot expect that the food stocks of the people will be redundant even in case of a good harvest, while there will be no surplus available for exportation. Turning now to Central India we find that the annual average acreage there is about four millions, or somewhat less than that of the N.-W. P. and Oudh. The past season was a bad one for the cultivator as he could only sow 2½ million acres, but this year he is in worse case as he has only been able to put 1½ million acres under crop. It is in the northern parts of the Central Provinces, and in Chhattisgarh—the "granary of India," as it has been called—that the sowings have been most interfered with by the autumnal drought; elsewhere the area sown is from 65 to 75 per cent of the average, and the prospects are fairly good. Here again, however, the winter-rains are needed to ensure a continuance of the existing favourable conditions. In Bombay, where three million acres are usually cropped with wheat, only one half of the area had been sown up to the third week in November when rain fell. It is very doubtful what the yield will be, but in the Deccan districts it is certain to be small. Sind alone, of all the provinces in India, seems in good case. The cultivators have put 91 per cent of their wheat land under crop and as they do not depend upon rainfall they will most probably have a good harvest. Taking all the information now made available by the Statistical Bureau, we can only come to the conclusion that as regards the wheat harvest of 1897 there is still much cause for apprehension. A period of drought such as visited us last cold weather would have most serious consequences, and we must therefore hope that the New Year will bring abundant rain where it is most needed.—*Pioneer.*

JODHPUR CHRISTMAS WEEK.

ON Monday, the Durhams beat the 15th Lancers by two goals and three subsidiaries to one subsidiary. The first chuka produced a very even game, and Tuson hit a subsidiary. In the second chuka Wilkinson scored two subsidiaries. In the third chuka the Lancers pressed, and Manwan made a good run, but missed the goal. In the fourth, Campbell hit a subsidiary, and two fouls were given against the Durhams. Miss Ewen missed the free hit in front of the goal, but Wilkinson hit a good goal, and DeLisle hit a subsidiary. The 15th Lancers played well.

In the second round of the Horse Cup the winners were Pritchard, Crawford, and Cameleon.

MILITARY NEWS.

MAJOR C. P. TRISCOTT, D.S.O., R.A., Commanding No. 1 Mountain Battery, R.A., has been appointed a D. A. A. G. on the District Staff of the Bombay command vice Major Blomfield, and posted to the Poona District.

THE Principal Medical Officer, Bombay and Aden Districts, will proceed to Aden on the annual tour of inspection, leaving Bombay on the 9th January Brigade Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel M. M. Gallway, A. M. S., will perform the duties of the Principal Medical Officer during his absence.

THE BISHOP OF NAGPUR ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

LAST Monday, the hall of the Bishop's School was crowded by a large number of people. The cause of this assembly was the meeting of the A.-I. and E. A. of Central India, presided by the Rev. C. H. Barlow, Chaplain of Nagpur. This Rev. gentleman remarked that it was the first and last meeting of the Association at which he presided, since he did not wish to take a prominent part in the movement. He furthermore drew the attention of the audience to the fact, that at a meeting of the members which was called when he was to go on leave, he was requested to accept the Presidentship of the Association with Mr. E. George as vice-President. He fully sympathised with the views of the Association and complied with the request of the members, and on his departure Mr. George succeeded to the chair. As the office was tenable for a year and as that period was fast approaching, the Rev. gentleman wished to resign the chair in favour of the vice-President, who had made strenuous efforts to promote the welfare of the institution during the period of his presidentship. Mr. Barlow then announced the Right Rev. Dr. Pelvat, the Bishop of Nagpur, as being the speaker of the evening, whom, he said, it was needless to introduce as the Bishop was well-known by the audience. This announcement was met with a loud applause.

His Lordship then delivered a very practical lecture on the importance and advantages of technical education. In the course of his remarks, he said:—"It was a source of great delight to me to accept your kind invitation in order to address you this evening, thus availing myself of the opportunity of demonstrating my sympathy for your Association. My object at present is to speak to you as a friend, who has spent the greater part of his Indian life among you, and who has made it a source of pleasure to him to promote the education of your children. The terrestrial history fails to furnish us with an example in which there is a body of officers as exact and united, as noted for their union, as the staff of officers who form the administration of this great Empire of India. And you, gentlemen, who, in my opinion, are next to them, you will advance in power and greatness and will distinguish yourselves if you cultivate the excellent qualities which are the chief means by which the superior officers have attained to their prestige. Ere I come to the subject of my discourse this evening, I must needs remind you that a child is the parent of man, and education must begin at home. It is a great mistake of parents to build their hopes regarding their children's education on the talents of the teachers. The masters gain the affections of the children, no doubt, but the other is visible to those at home. Parents must also render their valuable assistance to their children to follow their calling in life. God has disposed of his gifts as he pleased. He has gifted some in abundance, while others have just enough to keep their head above water. So all men do not possess the same abilities and aptitude. One prefers his tools to his books, while the other will bury himself in his books in preference to any other occupations. Hence we are convinced of the fact that it is a great folly to prevail upon a person

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 31.

AT the weekly biddings for Indian Council Bills in London, yesterday, only three lakhs were allotted to Bombay, out of the 40 lakhs offered, the other Presidencies receiving nothing. The rate obtained was 1s. 3 13-32d., at which tenders were accepted in full, and is that at which a portion of the extra Bills on Calcutta were placed on Tuesday. It is announced that 40 lakhs will be offered again next Wednesday. The Exchange Banks' buying rate in London on India at 30 days' sight remained at 1s. 3 1-8d. per rupee.

Consols were 1-16th per cent. higher in London, yesterday, at 111 9-16; and Indian Sterling Loan advanced ¼ per cent., to 118¾. About £100,000 in Gold was paid into the Bank of England yesterday. The market sales of discount were unaltered; 3½ per cent. Rupee Securities were 5-16ths. lower, at £63 3-8. The price of Bar Silver was unchanged in London, at 29¾d. per oz.; as it was also in New York at Tuesday's quotations for the metal and for Exchange on London. Braziers' Copper was 10s. higher in London, at £56 10s. per ton. French Rentes in Paris were unchanged at 102½; with Paris Exchange on London a shade higher, at Rs. 25 22½.

Linseed was quoted in London, yesterday, at 34 3-8s. per 416 lbs., at which business was done via the Canal, December-January shipment to Dunkerk, tone of the market quiet.

A recovery of the 1-16th lost on Tuesday in the price of spot Mid.-American Cotton in Liverpool took place yesterday, the rate returning at 4 1-32d. to that ruling on the previous Wednesday. Arrivals were also 1-64d. higher in all positions, the extreme quotations having been 3 29-32d. for December deliveries, and 3 7-8d. for April-May. The market closed quiet; Surats quiet, but steady; and Arrivals quiet; the day's sales having been 10,000 bales inclusive of 200 East Indians. The day's Imports were 21,000. The Manchester market was steady.

There was little change in Cotton prices in New York yesterday, the rate for ready Mid.-Uplands having been still 7 1-16 cents, while March Futures were 5 points lower, at 6·92 cents per lb. The receipts at the U. S. Ports were 28,000 bales, and the following comparison is now shown between last season's arrivals at the Ports, and those for the same period in the two previous years, say.—

	1896.	1895.	1894.
Wednesday's Receipts	38,000	7,000	20,000
Four days do.	171,000	133,000	149,000
Since 1st September	4,834,000	3,464,000	5,188,000

No business of account of the Mills has been reported here to-day; but exporters have taken 900 bales, consisting of 400 Dhulia, at Rs. 157-8; 300 Bengal, at Rs. 141-8; 100 Akola, at Rs. 163; and 100 old Westerns, at Rs. 185 per candy, the tone of the market having remained steady, and prices unchanged.

This morning's official telegrams from the Cotton districts report a further light fall of rain in parts of the Bengal and Oomrawattee circles since the beginning of the week, the heaviest registered having been about 57 cents, at Oomrawattee; but at Dhulia, in that circle, 19 cents, with hail storms, had been noted, and the weather continued cloudy and unseasonable. In the Berar district of the Bengal circle, picking had become general; and at Broach, where there had been no more rain, Cotton was arriving at the district markets in small quantities.

WHEAT.—No business whatever has been reported in this market to-day; but prices are quoted as before.

SEEDS are unchanged in value, a moderate business having transfered for shippers' account.

The Receipts of produce into Bombay, yesterday, were as follows:—

Cotton	400 bales,
Wheat	11,731 cwts.
Gingelly	847 "
Groundnuts	307 "
Castorseed	1,823 "
Rice	1,600 "

The Banks and Freight, Stock, and Share markets have been closed to-day for the New Year Holidays.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY COLONEL R. S. BROWN V.D., COMMANDING B. V. R.
Bombay 1st January, 1897.

There will be no parade on Saturday afternoon the 2nd instant.

2. Members in possession of Rifles are requested to return them to Head Quarters for the quarterly inspection under para. 275 Army Regulations, India, Vol. IX. The Rifles will be re-issued within a few minutes after receipt.

By order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant B. V. R.

NOTICE.

There will be a meeting of the Council of the Bombay Volunteer (Light Horse and Rifle) Rifle Association at Head-quarters, at 6 p.m., on Monday next, the 4th instant.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G. W. HOUGHTON, COMMANDING B. V. A.
Bombay, 1st January 1897.

1. Members of the Corps who have volunteered to act as additional Municipal Inspectors will parade at the Byculla Head-quarters on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd instant at 7-30 a.m. Dress Drill order without arms, pattie to be worn. Breakfast will be provided at 10 a.m. gloves should be worn and any abrasions of the skin should be covered with sticking plaister.

By order,
A. J. PEILE, Lieut., R. A.,
Adjutant B. V. A.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.
LONDON, Dec. 30.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet, but steady.

Good Dhollera	5 1-32

The Manchester Market has been steady.

2½ per cent. Consols	111 9-16
3 per cent. Rentes	102¼
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	118¾
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	63 3-8
Bar Silver	29 7-8

The sum of about £1,00,000 has been paid into the Bank of England.

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th November, 1896, on 481 Miles open.

——	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated.]	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	32,000	1,12,000	4,000	2,98,000
Or per mile of Railway	199	233	9	451
For previous 18 weeks of half-year.	16,0,806	21,35,848	67,715	38,13,169
Total for 19 weeks	17,01,306	22,47,848	71,715	40,21,169
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	1,23,383	1,91,305	2,225	3,16,873
Per mile of Ry. do.	257	415	5	687
Total to corresponding date do.	17,42,122	24,77,683	54,557	42,74,362
Decrease for the week				Rs. 1,08,873
Ditto to date				2,53,193

PALANPUR-DEESA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 4th November, 1896, on 17·28 Miles open.

——	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated].	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	500	300	10	81
Or per mile of Railway	29	17	1	47
For previous 19 weeks of half-year.	7,293	2,179	83	9,994
Total for 20 weeks	7,793	3,479	93	10,804
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	490	195	1	624
Per mile of Ry. do.	29	11	...	36
Total to corresponding date do.	7,857	2,859	67	10,089
Increase for the week				Rs.
Do. to date				

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

KNOX—December 27, at Allahabad, the wife of Lieut. G. Knox, R. S. C., of a son.

PETERSEN—December 29, at No. 32, Chowringee, the wife of J. C. Delphin Petersen, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BALLANCE—DAWSON—December 15, at All Souls Church, Cawnpore, by the Rev. Prichett Shaw, Sergeant John Ballance, 2nd H. L. I., to Gertrude Jane Dawson, eldest daughter of Mr. F. F. Dawson, Cawnpore.

MACHUTCHIN—CALDWELL—December 23, at St. Peter's Church, Kodaikanal, by the Rev. C. Charles, Visagapatam, John Colin Campbell MacHutchin, Madras Revenue Survey, second son of the late Colonel W. M. MacHutchin, to Violet Louisa, eldest daughter of the late R. S. Caldwell, and granddaughter of the late Rt. Rev. Bishop Caldwell.

DEATHS.

DE LAUNEY—December 23, at the Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta, Eleanor Clothilde de Launey, younger daughter of the late T. P. de Launey, of Cawnpore, Supervisor.

O'CONNOR—December 27, at Madras, of paralysis, Thomas O'Connor, aged 57.

POOLEY—December 27, at Ennore, Herbert S. Pooley, Assistant Inspector, Salt Abkari and Customs Department, aged 19.

VERNEDE—December 24, at Cochin, of fever and abdominal hæmorrhage, Charles William Evans, third son of the late Samuel James and Catherine Amelia Vernede, aged 27 years, 2 months and 11 days.

WILSON—December 21, at Kodaikanal, "The Garth," the dearly beloved husband of Melrose Eliza Wilson, grandson of the late Mary Rich, of Peckham, and brother of John Balcombe, of Woolwich, London, S. E., Local Fund Supervisor, Madura District, aged 31 years.

The Bombay Gazette

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1897.

THE concluding volume of Colonel Hanna's work on Indian Problems, entitled "Backwards or Forwards?" has just been published by Constable and Co., London. The author claims that the first of the series, "Can Russia Invade India," published eighteen months ago, has done much to change the tone of many English newspapers which, while still adhering to the forward policy, are anxious to clear themselves of any suspicion that they still believe in the possibility of a Russian invasion of India. For our part, we should be inclined to attribute the change of view to the desire to bring about an understanding with Russia as a guarantee of peace. In so far as a better appreciation of "the geographical, climatic, and transport and commissariat facts that rule the military situation in Central Asia," may have tended to remove exaggerated apprehensions of imminent danger of a Russian attack on India and to reconcile public opinion to projects of a rapprochement with the Northern Empire, Colonel Hanna's first volume may have done useful service. It may be that he is equally entitled to congratulate himself on the success of his second volume, "India's Scientific Frontier," in opening the eyes of the military authorities in India to the weakness of the disposition of the troops in the wide regions between the political and the natural frontier. They are now handing over the care of isolated posts to tribal levies—a course which he hopes to see continued until they have brought the exposed detachments back within the lines of the old frontier which he regards, perhaps rightly, as invulnerable. That volume having essayed to show that the Scientific Frontier is strategically and politically unsound, that which is now given to the public sets forth the price which India has to pay, for what, in his opinion, is unmasked security. He tries to forecast the ultimate cost to England of a policy to which she gives a careless and an ignorant support. The chief factors are the great defensive works that have been undertaken since Lord Lytton, abandoning the settled policy towards Afghanistan, set out in search of a Scientific Frontier. Colonel Hanna maintains that the long line of fortified posts within our old frontier really closed every passage into India, while the new forts, far in advance of that frontier, with the one exception of Quetta, do not block the passes. He holds that Sir George Chesney must have had this fact in his mind when he told the Aldershot Military Society that where there are passes and gorges in the mountains, fieldworks have been constructed for the purpose of closing the frontier and strengthening the defences of the important garrison and arsenal of Rawal Pindi further in the rear. Quetta does block an important pass, but military roads have been constructed north and east of it, and a great line of communication opened up with Dehra Ghazi Khan by the Bori Valley, which would facilitate the movements of an enemy desirous of masking and turning the position. Quetta would give shelter to an army corps, the proportions of the armament being, from the author's point of view, simply ridiculous, having regard to the small force which alone could move upon it from the Caspian. Sir John Dickson Poynder says of Quetta: "Here science has brought to bear every infernal machine in the shape of batteries at short intervals, outworks and breastworks, ranged one behind the other, and quick-firing guns posted on the adjoining heights." It was certainly considerate, having made the position so strong that an enemy would not care to attack it, to provide roads to enable him to turn it, leaving its large garrison in the air, cut off from its supports. The author holds that the permanent occupation of Quetta—determined upon by Lord Lytton's Government, as the first step towards the invasion of Afghanistan—is a strategic blunder, and a source of weakness.

In fear of the other end of the frontier are the fortifications of Rawal Pindi, which, by the author's account, had their origin in a blunder of a somewhat different kind. It was intended to place an arsenal at Rawal Pindi, defended by earthworks. When the works were half completed it was discovered that they were commanded by the neighbouring heights. To avoid the disgrace that would attend the abandonment of the site, it was decided to fortify the heights, thus creating a vast useless quadrilateral which like Quetta would require an army Corps for its defence against a formidable enemy, while its size and strength are absurd to resist an enemy numerically weak. A suspicion of the truth seems to have dawned upon the military authorities, for the works have not been completed. Sir Henry Brackenbury complacently informed the Legislative Council some months ago that all the forts having been constructed, it was decided to postpone the construction of the intermediate batteries, as they could be rapidly made, and in view of the progress of modern military science the armament need not yet be procured. Want of funds was assigned as the ostensible reason for this patient waiting for the progress of modern science before providing guns for works described by Sir Henry's predecessor as of extraordinary value. General H. B. Medley spoke of those fortifications as hap-hazard, an opinion which Sir Henry Brackenbury probably shares. Sir George Chesney described those large and costly works as substitutes for permanent works; they were not constructed to hold against an army, but merely "as a precaution in case we were caught napping, that war might not find us ready, and that we might not be in sufficient strength to be able to hold our ground in the open until reinforced by the necessary troops. These works are of extraordinary value, but it would be a fatal error to hold on to them." Colonel Hanna seems to be fully justified in strongly animadverting on the fact that vast sums have been lavished on a site which can only be held for a brief breathing time to get over the results of being "caught napping" by an enemy who has to traverse all Afghanistan before entering India. If it be necessary to abandon a fortified position like that of Rawal Pindi, well within our old frontier, it will be not less but more necessary to abandon all the fortified posts scattered over tens of thousands of square miles beyond the mountains on the approach of an enemy. He regards the prospect of abandoning Rawal Pindi as shameful and appalling, but admits that the alternative of clinging to works that have been "casually and mischievously created" would involve imprisonment of large forces whose presence in the field is essential. Chesney was doubtless right in saying that it would be "monstrous" to think of holding those works for more than temporary purposes. But having created them and entrusted to them the safe-keeping of arsenals and treasure, it will be impossible to destroy them in a moment and equally impossible to allow them to fall into an enemy's hands. If we hold them and lock up a corps d'armée in Rawal Pindi and another in Quetta and another 10,000 or 15,000 men in the works to be called into existence at Multan and other points, where is the army for service in the field to come from? It would be necessary to denude other parts of India of their garrisons and to summon reinforcements from Home. But if England be at war with Russia, she will probably be also at war with France and reinforcements may not be forthcoming.

All this assumes that the postulate of the Forward School, that Russia can invade India with a large army, is well founded. The author gives his reasons for holding that the apprehension is groundless. He maintains that, under existing conditions, it is impossible to move a large army through the roadless and inhospitable tract that separates the Russian from the Indian frontier, and that therefore costly preparations made in view of an emergency that cannot arise are wasteful and mischievous, and not the less so that in the contingency conjured up they would prove worse than useless and additional sources of danger. Colonel Hanna's contention is this: If it be true, as the Forward School assert, that the annexation of 78,000 square miles of territory will enable the distant outposts erected at various points hundreds of miles beyond our old frontier to arrest the invader, then Russian armies can never appear before the walls of Rawal Pindi and Multan, and the whole strength of the army of India will be available for the defence of Quetta. If that be so, the fortifications of Rawal Pindi and the promised fortifications of Multan are unnecessary. The Forward School have no faith in the efficiency of their latest line of defence; they take it for granted that, in spite of Gilgit and Chitral and Quetta, the Russians will come to the Indus and even to Rawal Pindi, which it would be "monstrous" to abandon to. If Jacobabad and Jamrud remained the bastions of the front attack, Colonel Hanna is satisfied that the Russians would never water their camels—of which they have many now—in the Indus.

THE memory of Captain, afterwards Sir Richard Burton the adventurous officer of the Bombay Army, who had a large part in the discovery of the great lakes, Tanganyaka and Victoria Nyanza, will long survive in this Presidency. But it may be doubted whether the "True Life of Captain Sir Richard F. Burton, written by his niece, Georgiana M. Stisted, with the authority and approval of the Burton Family," and published by H. S. Nichols, London, will do much to perpetuate his name and fame. The book just given to the public with the approval of his family is everything that a biography ought not to be, and is moreover a malevolent libel on the late Lady Burton, whose "Life" of the husband she worshipped it is the object of his niece to contradict while vilifying its authoress now that death precludes reply. Miss Stisted is the daughter of Burton's sister, Lady Stisted. Her object in writing is to tell the truth about her uncle and to give his career to the public in a popular form—a double task in which she has achieved a very qualified measure of success. It would not be unjust to suggest that the chief object is to discredit the biography written by her uncle's widow, and to relieve him from the imputation of having received the last sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church before instead of after death. Miss Stisted affirms that Burton so "loathed" that Church that before his marriage in the hey day of vigorous manhood with Isabella Arundel, of whom he was passionately enamoured, he exacted a stipulation that "she should give him her solemn promise, that if he predeceased her no Romish priest should be surreptitiously introduced to his death chamber." To anyone who ever met the distinguished traveller, the notion of his giving an instant's thought on such an occasion as to what might happen in the dim and distant future in his death chamber, is supremely ludicrous. A Somali spear or an Arab's knife would have seemed for him more likely to connect itself with any anticipation of his final end than fear of priest or parson. It would never have entered into his head that he had anything to "fear from either." The authoress of the "True Life" charges the widow with having deliberately violated the "stipulation" she asserts was made. She gives an absurd description of a supposed scene in which Lady Burton having summoned a Siav priest, "a man of peasant extraction," to her husband's death-bed "flung herself at his feet" and implored him to give sacrament to the dead-body although the doctor had declared that there was no doubt as to the decease. The clergyman demurred but yielded to her importunities. There were only two witnesses present, and Miss Stisted was not one of them. Nor does she give the authority of either of them to support her version of what happened. In Lady Burton's Life she states that the doctor declared life to be extinct some hours after the religious rite had been performed. The notion of publishing a book to "tell the truth" on such points, gives the measure of the authoress's qualification for dealing with the career of a man who went on a pilgrimage to Mecca and performed all the rites of the Haj as a good Mahomedan without turning a hair.

"The True Life" undertakes to give a new version of the story of Burton's attempt to induce the local authorities at Damascus to approve of some twenty-five thousand secret Christians, outwardly Mohamedans, to be baptised, Lady Burton standing sponsor for them. According to Miss Stisted, who professes to know what really occurred, Burton had a supreme contempt for Syrian Christians, holding them to be an ignorant priest-ridden, and pusillanimous crew. She asserts that it was Lady Burton who endeavoured to organise a Christian revival, and got together two hundred and fifty enthusiasts, who held meetings, and eventually publicly announced that they were yearning for baptism. Burton, "continually absent on explorations, or attending to the duties of his Consulate, and knowing nothing, or next to nothing, about her dangerous proceedings, she impressed upon the people the belief that she acted with his full permission and approval." It seems strange that such a movement could have been organised and the result made public in Damascus without the Consul coming to hear of it. As a matter of fact, it was the information communicated to the Foreign Office by Burton of the intended conversion and the projected settlement of the Jerts on land in the neighbourhood of Jerusalem which called the attention of the British Government to the matters. He was instantly removed from Damascus for meddling in a matter so likely to give umbrage to the Turkish authorities. Miss Stisted makes no allusion to this letter, nor to the statement drawn up by Burton and, signed by him published in Lady Burton's "Life." Nor does she refer to Lady Burton's own statement on the subject, which shows that the proposal that she should stand godmother originated with Burton himself. The truth is, that while Burton posed with his friends as Agnostic and really was one up to a certain point, he was possessed of a vein of mysticism which led him to believe that there might be and probably was a great deal of vitality and a certain degree of truth in all religions. To suppose that he "loathed" any creed is to wholly misapprehend his point of view.

THE mortality of the past week reached the altogether unparralleled total of 1,853, a figure which is four hundred and forty greater than that of the previous week—the death-rate being not less than 115·11 per thousand per annum. The number of fatal cases of fever during the week was 956, but of these only 390 are returned as being cases of bubonic fever; 545 being, perhaps erroneously, shown as other fevers, principally remittent. Whether or not many fatal cases of fever would have been more correctly described as bubonic it is impossible accurately to say. Anyhow the fault is not that of the Municipal authorities. They can only enter the deaths on the returns as medical practitioners certify them, and there are medical practitioners of sorts. The average number of fatal fever cases over the corresponding weeks of the past five years was roughly 120. If we take the difference between the quinquennial average and the total of fatal fevers of all kinds in the past week we get 836, but we are not inclined to believe there is any possibility of such gigantic misrepresentation on the part of medical men and hakims. We can only deal with the returns as they are presented to us, and take the number of bubonic cases at 390 instead of 836, though there are many who believe the latter figure more nearly right than the former. Kamatipura remains the most extensively infected area, the number of deaths from bubonic fever being 61 and from other fevers 55. Dhobi Talao, Mazagon, Byculla, and Worli had each upwards of twenty, the cases of remittent fever being correspondingly large. Upper Colaba, South Fort, Walkeshwar, and Mahaluxmi were the only districts free of fatal cases. Of the deceased eight were Jains, thirteen Brahmins; one Lingaet, 243 Hindus of other castes; 42 low-castes, 29 Mussalmans; 22 Parsis; two Jews; 28 Native Christians; and two Eurasians. Chinamen, Negro-Africans and Europeans have escaped. It is worthy of remark that of the ten persons "entitled to admission to the European General Hospital" who have been treated there since the beginning of the epidemic but three have died—only one being European. There are now only three cases in the hospital, and of these only one is a European, properly so called. Deaths from phthisis have numbered 266 as compared with an average of less than eighty; while diseases of the respiratory system accounted for 257 as against an average of ninety.

WITH to-day's issue we present our readers with the customary New Year's Sheet Almanac.

WE are requested by the Rector of St. Mary's College, Mazagon, to state that the schools for boarders and day scholars will re-open on February 1st.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY, under the authority vested in him by the Indian Councils Acts, 1861 and 1892, has been pleased to nominate Mr. J. Monteath, M.A., I.C.S., to be an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations only.

THE Honourable Mr. Justice Fulton, I.C.S., and the Honourable Mr. Justice Jardine, I.C.S., respectively, delivered over and received charge of the office of Judge of the High Court on the 19th December.

MR. W. H. LUCAS, I.C.S., is appointed to be Assistant Collector, Sind.

MR. R. THOM, Assistant Collector of Salt Revenue, Bombay, has been allowed by the Secretary of State three months' extraordinary leave on medical certificate without pay.

THE following appointments have been made:—Mr. H. Seaell, to be Superintedent of Police, First Grade; Mr. H. Kennedy, to be Inspector-General of Police; Mr. L. H. Spence, to be District Superintendent in the Ahmednagar District; and Mr. J. V. Cooke, to be District Superintendent in the Shikarpur District.

MR. T. WALKER, I. C. S., on return to duty, is to officiate as Judge and Sessions Judge, Surat. Mr. R. S. Tipnis, B.A., L.L.B., on relief by Mr. Walker, to be Assistant Judge in the Surat District. Mr. C. G. H. Fawcett, I.C.S., on relief by Mr. Tipnis, to be Assistant Judge and Sessions Judge, Poona, and Assistant

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

TURKISH REFORMS.

LONDON, DEC. 31.

M. Bertram, a German official in the Turkish service, has been appointed Under-Secretary of Finance. This is regarded as a good augury.

QUARANTINE IN TURKEY.

Ten days' quarantine is now imposed at Turkish ports on all arrivals from Kurrachee and also rigorous disinfection.

GRAIN GAMBLING IN GERMANY.

In consequence of the new law forbidding the dealing in future grain, the members of the produce exchanges at Berlin and Stettin have resolved henceforth to forsake the exchanges.

LONDON, DEC. 31.

LATER.

Two of the prisoners on trial for the murder of M. Stamboulof have been sentenced to three years' imprisonment and a third has been acquitted. Madame Stamboulof, who appeared in Court, made a short and impassioned speech in which she urged the tribunal to acquit the accused and arraign the real murderers, viz., the present Government.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has arrived at Capetown where he had a public reception. The streets were decorated and triumphal arches erected in his honour. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed.

Public opinion at Madrid demands the recall of General Weyler, from Cuba, owing to the ill-success of his operations against the rebels.

NEW YORK, DEC. 24.

The Republican Caucus Committee have drafted a Bill empowering the President to appoint delegates for any conference with the object of restoring bimetallism.

THE MAILS.

SUEZ, DEC. 31.

The P. and O. Company's s. s. China, with the outward mails of the 25th instant, left here, at 8 a.m., to-day.

THE SCARCITY IN CENTRAL INDIA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DEC. 31.

Colonel Thornton, late Commissioner of Ajmere, who has been placed on special duty by the Government of India to examine and report upon the condition of those States of Rajputana and Central India which are affected by the scarcity and threatened with famine, visits Central India after completing a tour in Bikanir and Eastern Rajputana, arriving at Gwalior about the 25th of January.

THE IMPENDING FAMINE.

THE *STATESMAN* ON LORD ELGIN'S ATTITUDE.

The *Statesman*, this morning, publishes a long article criticising Lord Elgin's attitude in regard famine in the Central Provinces, and advocating the immediate importation of grain on a large scale by the Government. "The Government," it says "that does not strain every nerve to keep people alive in the time of famine, abnegates its first functions as a civilised Government, and deserves to be held in universal execration, especially in India, where the State is the great landlord of the soil. The responsibility of saving people from dying of hunger is one of which it cannot divest itself, yet what is the Government doing to provide against the famine, looming like a shroud over the people, instead of arranging for importing food on an adequate scale. The limit of its statesmanship is reached when it has ordered a ship-load of horse carrots seed for starving people. Lord Elgin blandly assures the Home authorities that there is no need whatever for help in the shape of public subscriptions, as the Government of India is quite able to cope with the trifling distress that exists. Was ever such a fatuous counsel heard from the lips of a responsible ruler. By and by money will be of no use when the food-stocks of the country are exhausted. The money will merely mock people's sufferings. The Government will then begin to think of importing grain, but they may save themselves the trouble during the months that must elapse before it can be brought to the people's doors. Central and the North-East Provinces will be converted into a huge grave-yard."

GAZETTE OF INDIA NOTIFICATION.

Brigade-Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Woodforde Finden is permitted to retire from the Service from 21st December 1896.

Lieutenant Colonel G. D. C. Gastrell has been appointed Commandant, 8th Bengal Infantry, Nowgong, Vice Colonel A. Fisher, permitted to reside out of India.

BOMBAY COMMAND ORDERS.

POONA, DEC. 31.

Military Works Department—Under instructions from the Army Head-Quarters, India, Lieutenant Jolly De Lotbiniere, Royal Engineers, is transferred from Bombay Command to Famine Relief Works, Central Provinces; Lieutenant Babington, Royal Engineers, Assistant Engineer, Military Works, is transferred from Poona Division to Aden Division, Military Works.

Bombay Command Order, No. 610, dated 4th December, posting Major Grant, Royal Engineers to Bombay Command Military Works, is cancelled.

The War Office has sanctioned an exchange of Battalion between Captain Forbes, 1st Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, and Captain F. T. E. Scones, Royal Fusiliers, recently promoted and posted to the 2nd Battalion. Captain Forbes is, therefore, directed to proceed to England and join the 2nd Battalion, travelling at public expense.

Bombay Command Order 620, of 1896, is accordingly cancelled.

Colonel William, British Service, having completed his tenure of appointment as Assistant General on the District Staff of the Bombay Command, is directed to proceed to England, travelling at the public expense.

Under Army Regulations, India, Volume X., part I., P. 212 (1). The undermentioned officers and warrant officers have leave of absence:—Military Works Department—Lieutenant West, Royal Engineers, 6 months, on medical certificate, granted by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India. Indian Medical Service—Surgeon-Major Ferguson, Medical Officer, 19th Bombay Infantry, 2 months, on medical certificate, is granted by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India.

Ordnance Depot—Sub-Conductor Tacey, 2 months, on medical certificate, granted by the Right Honoble the Secretary of State for India.

THE ALIBAG CASE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

ALIBAG, DEC. 31.

Professor Sathe's case has been fixed for hearing on the 11th January. At Mr. Purushottom Pare's request to be supplied with a copy of the complaint, Mr. Brooke, the trying Magistrate stated that he was not in a position to give information further than he had already furnished.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, DEC. 30.

The P. & O. Co.'s steamer Japan from Colombo arrived here this morning.

HONGKONG, DEC. 31.

The Florio Rubattino Co.'s steamer Lotimbro, from Bombay arrived here this morning.

The German East Africa Line's steamer Safari arrived at Zanzibar from Bombay on the 30th inst., via Lamu and Mombassa.

THE NEW YEAR'S HONOURS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DEC. 31.

The New Year's Honours List is issued as follows:—

ORDER OF THE STAR OF INDIA.

His Excellency the Grand Master of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India is pleased to announce that Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been graciously pleased to make the following appointments to the said Order:—

To be K.C.S.I.—The Hon. John Woodburn; Maharao Raja Sir Raghabir Singh Bahadur of Bundi; and Sir F. C. Buck.

To be C.S.I.—The Hon. John Nugent; C. L. Tupper; and A. H. L. Fraser.

To be K.C.I.E.—Sir Owen Tudor Burn.

To be K.C.I.E.—Maharaja Sawai Rangor Singh Bahadur, Chief of Aligarh.

ORDER OF THE INDIAN EMPIRE.

His Excellency the Grand Master of the Eminent Order of the Indian Empire is pleased to announce that Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India has been graciously pleased to make the following appointments to the said Order:—

To be C.I.E.—The Hon'ble Lieutenant-Colonel, W. E. Cooper; Alex. Anderson John Eliot, F.R.S. Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India; Maharaja Rajadhwar Sankara Subhaiya, Dewan of Travancore; Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. Wells, R. E.; Lieutenant E. W. Petley, R. N. Commandant, Calcutta Naval Volrs.; Rai Bahadur Pandit Bhag Ram, of Cashmere; and Khan Bahadur Nowroji Pestonjee Vakil, of Ahmedabad.

The following have been appointed Honorary Surgeons to the H. E. the Viceroy:—Surgeon-Major General Thomas Walsh; and Surgeon-Colonel C. A. Atkins.

The Queen-Empress is pleased to confer the Knighthood upon Mr. C. A. Roe, Chief Judge, of the Punjab.

NATIVE DISTINCTIONS.

H. E. the Viceroy and Governor-General of India has been pleased to confer the title of Khan Bahadur as a personal distinction upon:—

Khan Sahib Kazi Mir Zeyanudin Jalaluddin Abdul Kadr valad Fateh Khan Subadar-Major Hazrat Shah Bahadur, 24th Bombay Infantry.

H. E. the Viceroy and Governor-General of India has been pleased to confer the title of Rao Bahadur as a personal distinction upon:—

Ramchandra Bapaji Pragji Laxmidhar.

H. E. the Viceroy and Governor-General of India has been pleased to confer the title of Khan Saheb as a personal distinction upon:—

Dadamiya Anwarkha.

H. E. the Viceroy and Governor-General of India has been pleased to confer the title of Rao Saheb as a personal distinction upon:—

Mangaldas Jagchand, Trimbak Anant Riswadkar and Bomanjee Bhicajee.

THE TWELFTH NATIONAL INDIAN CONGRESS.

At to-day's meeting of the Congress resolutions were adopted directing the attention of the Government to the deplorable condition of the poorer classes in India, and recommending the extension of the Permanent Settlement, the Establishment of Agricultural banks, the raising of the minimum income under the Income-Tax Act to Rs. 1,000, and the establishment of technical schools for the amelioration of their condition.

A resolution was also passed having direct reference to the deposition of the Maharaja of Jhalawar, stating that in the opinion of the Congress it was desirable that in future no Indian Prince or Chief be disposed on the ground of maladministration or misconduct until the fact of such maladministration or misconduct had been established to the satisfaction of a Public Tribunal, which shall command confidence of the Government and the Indian Princes and Chiefs. The resolution was moved by Mr. Sinha Chinu, barrister-at-law, and seconded by Mr. Chinu, and carried with enthusiasm.

It was then proposed by Mr. Baboo Kalichun Banerjee, of Bengal, and seconded by Professor Gokhal, that the Acts of Incorporation of the several Indian Universities be amended so as to provide for the introduction of teaching functions and wider scope of learning to suit generally the requirements of the present day, the suggested amendment of the Acts having for its object the founding of Professorships and Fellowships in the Universities.

A resolution was also passed, that having regard to the facility of intercourse between all parts of India and Assam, the Congress is of opinion that time had arrived when the Inland Immigration Act of 1882 as amended by Act 7 of 1895 should be repealed. This was followed by a resolution in which the Congress placed on record its emphatic protest against the retrograde policy the Government of India followed last year in nominating gentlemen from the Central Provinces to the Supreme Council without asking recommendations from the Local Bodies, and earnestly hoped that Government would give the Central Provinces the same kind of representation as already given to Bengal, Madras, Bombay, and the North-West Provinces.

Mr. G. P. Pillai, of Madras, then moved the strengthening of the Bombay and Madras Executive Councils by declaring the Officers Commanding the Forces of those Presidencies members of the respective Councils as the Commanders-in-Chief were before the Madras and Bombay Army Acts of 1893 were passed. It was pointed out that the result of the new system deprived the Governors of these Presidencies of the privilege of a casting vote, which they formerly enjoyed.

The Congress also entered its protest against the policy of the Government in the provinces where the duration of settlements was being reduced to shorter periods, especially Madras and the Central Provinces, and prayed that the settlement should be guaranteed for long periods, at least sixty years.

The nomination by the Bombay Presidency Association of Mr. Dinsha Eduljee Wacha to give evidence before the Royal Commission on Indian Expenditure was warmly approved, and a resolution was passed expressing full confidence in Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji as a representative of the people of India and hoping he be re-elected to the Parliament.

Resolutions were then passed thanking the President of the Reception Committee and the volunteers for the part they had taken in rendering the Congress a success.

An interesting incident in connection with to-day's proceedings was the presentation by Mahomedan delegates and admirers of the Hon. Mr. Sayani of a gold watch and chain to him. In accepting it, he said he only did so as a proof of the interest which his co-religionists were taking in the Congress movement, which had for its object the good of all classes of the Indian community. He said he hoped to see a larger attendance of the Mahomedans, if not as delegates, at least as visitors at the next Congress, which he announced it was proposed to hold at Amraoti.

Three ringing cheers were then given for Her Majesty. The President and members of the Reception Committee were then photographed, after which the assembly dispersed.

The Social Conference will be held, to-morrow, in the Congress pandal.

KOLHAPUR RACES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

KOLHAPUR, DEC. 31.

The third day's races came off well. The following are the details:—

KURUNDWAR SELLING RACE.

1ST RACE.—"Walk over."

Aga Reeja's Red Jacket, 8st 8lb, Aga S Shah 0

2ND RACE.—"The Stakes. Owners divided the entrances.

Chief of Kagal's Red Ball, 10st 11lb, Aga S Shah 0
MacGregor's Mansfield, 9st 9lb, Nubee 0

3RD RACE.—"The Pony Selling Race."

Burzoo, Rs 600, 8st 1 lb, Aga S Shah 1
Gift Rs 500, 7st 13lb, Native 2
Young Rustom, Rs 600, 8st 9lb 3

Won by a length. Time—55 secs.

Betting: 2 to 1 on Burzoo; 2 to 1 against Gift; and 4 to 1 against Rustom.

4TH RACE.—"Stewards' Purse."

Martaban 1
Mehetab 2
Inkerman 3

Won by one and a-half length; one length between second and third. Time—1 min. 53 secs.

Betting: 5 to 2 on Martaban; 2 to 1 against Hankow; 5 to 2 Inkermap; 3 to 1 Mehetab; 10 to 1 Sirtaz.

5TH RACE.—A match between Maharajah of Kolhapur's Arab Chand (8st. 2lb.), Mohammed, and Aga S. Shah's C. O. Faust (8st 6lb), Ebrahim. One and a half mile. Rs. 1,000 a side.

Won easily by several lengths. Time—2min. 49secs.

Betting: 6 to 1 against Chand.

6TH RACE.—"The Southern Maratta Cup."

Muslavi, 8st 3lb, Hooroo 1
Russian, 10st 5lb, Owner 2
Hard Lines, late Defender, 9st 5lb, Ebrahim 3
Fusser, 9st 11lb, C S Mahomed 4
Captain, 8st 9lb 5
Taisser, 8st 8lb, Greenhalgh 6
Johar, 7st 4lb, Native 0

Won by two lengths; half-a-length separating second and third. Time—1min. 25secs.

Betting: 6 to 4 on Hard Lines; 2 to 1 against Nusser and Taisseer; 3 to 1 Russian; 5 to 1 Captain; 10 to 1 against Muslavi and Johar.

7TH RACE.—"Kolhapur Cup."

Meheral, 8st 10lb, Aga S Shah 1
Shanavaz, 9st 4lb, Native 2

Won by one and a-half length. Time—2 min. 23 secs.

Betting: 4 to 1 against Shanavaz.

8TH RACE.—"Now or Never Stakes."

Success 1
Mandoli 2
Hilal 3

Won by one and a-half length; second and third being separated by three-quarters of a length. Time—1 min. 26 secs.

Betting: Evens on Success; 2 to 1 against Mansfield and Hilal; 5 to 1 against Gift; and 10 to 1 against Seeta.

THE GOVERNOR'S SECOND TOUR.

The following is the programme of his Excellency the Governor's Tour in January 1897:—

January 6th, Wednesday—Leave Victoria Terminus station at 9.30 p.m.

7th, Thursday—Arrive Shoranur at 9.22 a.m.

8th, Friday—Leave Shoranur at 5.5 p.m., and arrive Mohol at 6.40 p.m.

9th, Saturday—Leave Mohol for Pandharpur by road.

10th, Sunday—Leave Pandharpur for Barsi Road station by road, leave Barsi Road station at 3 p.m., arrive Dhond at 10.51 p.m., and leave Dhond at 10.50 p.m.

11th, Monday—Arrive Ahmednagar at 1.1 a.m.

12th, Tuesday—Leave Ahmednagar at 9.55 a.m., arrive Vanoori at 10.37 a.m., and drive to relief work and return to Rahuri station.

13th, Wednesday—Leave Rahuri at 2.30 a.m., arrive Nasik at 4.22 a.m., leave Nasik at 2.51 p.m., and arrive Manmad at 4 p.m.

14th, Thursday—Leave Manmad at 4.30 p.m., and arrive at Nasik at 7.3 p.m.

15th, Friday—Leave Nasik at midnight.

16th, Saturday—Arrive Victoria Terminus station at 6.30 a.m.

His Excellency the Governor will be accompanied by the Private Secretary and Acting Military Secretary.

W. G. WALTON, Captain,
Acting Military Secretary to the Governor.

P. AND O. ARRANGEMENTS AT MARSEILLES.

In order to facilitate the transit of passengers wishing to proceed overland from Marseilles to London, the P. and O. Company have made arrangements with the French Railways whereby the Sleeping Car Company will, on the arrival of the P. and O. through steamer at Marseilles from Bombay, provide Sleeping Car for up to sixty passengers fitted with every convenience for the journey together with a Restaurant Car and the train will be timed to leave Marseilles according to the hour of the arrival of the packet. As a general rule the steamers will arrive at Marseilles during daylight, and when the arrival is convenient, and the Customs and other formalities can be got through in time, the special train will leave Marseilles about 5-30 p.m. and reach Calais in time to connect with the service due in London at 4-50 p.m., so placing the passenger in London about 23 hours after his departure from Marseilles. In the event of the steamer arriving at Marseilles in the afternoon, and there is not time to despatch the train at 5-30 p.m., it will be started about 8 p.m. and passengers will then reach Calais in time to connect with the ordinary service due in London about 7-30 p.m. the next day.

Special arrangements have been made with regard to baggage, and it can be registered through to Paris or London, and baggage so registered will only be examined at destination.

A SHIPWRECKED CREW.

The City Line s. s. City of London, Captain C. Warden, which arrived in harbour, yesterday, from Glasgow and Liverpool, with a general cargo and passengers, encountered terrific gales in the North Atlantic and fine weather in the Mediterranean Sea, and fresh to strong monsoon in the Arabian Sea. Captain Warden also reports that on the 7th instant he rescued the crew of the Norwegian barque Atmedia, of Christiana, in the North Atlantic in latitude 42° 20° N and longitude 9° 40 N. The barque was foundering, having six feet of water in the hold, and steadily increasing. The crew were landed at Malta.

Thirty additional constables have been chartered for six months on the inhabitants of 20 villages in the Igatpuri Taluka of Nasik in consequence of the riotous conduct of the inhabitants, who are to be charged with the cost.

Following on the feeble barometric depression of last week, a cyclonic storm entered Kathiawar on Sunday morning, and wheeling northward its centre was over Bikanir at about 8 a.m., on Monday. Its advance caused the wind to shift to east and south-east, the rainy quarter in Northern India, and brought rain to the plains and snow to the adjoining hill stations. Neemuch, Bikanir, Jeypore and Sirsa each report about half an inch on Monday morning, and Khandwa, Delhi, Meerut, Umballa and Ludhiana received about a quarter of an inch each, while several other stations in the Punjab and Rajputana came in for small amounts. At Simla, on the same morning, the first snow of the season fell, about 40 cents. of rain being received between 7 a.m. and noon.

A few days ago, says the Lahore paper, two officials happened to meet at a rest-house in the Punjab. One was an oldish man; the other, but lately joined. To see the elder came a native gentleman. In the course of conversation, he asked who the other Sahib was. He was told, and said, "But, Sir, he appears a mere child." The other answered:—"Well, he has only just joined, you know, so is not very old; but what makes you think him a mere child?" "Well," said the native, "when I came to see your honour just now, I found him playing about quite happily with a little round white stone and a piece of stick." The budding administrator is an enthusiastic golfer, and was practising curious strokes, with the aid of a book, on the ground in front of the bungalow. This is nearly, if not quite as good as the Chinese official who, shortly after the outbreak of the China-Japanese war, dug up the tin-canisters which had just been used for the holes in the new golf links at Newchang and had them carefully examined, in the belief that the British residents were laying some new form of dynamite mine.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

At next week's meeting of the Legislative Council, the reports of the Select Committee on the Bill amending the Criminal Tribes Act and the Bill for regulating inquiries into the behaviour of public servants will be presented. The Select Committee, recently appointed to consider the question of rules for the conduct of business before the Council, will also present its report.

H. E. Maharaja Sir Bir Shumsheree Jung, K.C.S.I., the Prime Minister of Nepal, attended by some of his brothers, and accompanied by Colonel Henry Wylie, C.S.I., the Resident in Nepal, and Surgeon-Captain Armstrong, proposes to visit Calcutta unofficially. He will arrive on the evening of the 31st instant.

Maharaja Holkar has started on a tour in Southern India. He proposes visiting Hyderabad, Mysore, Marmagao, Belgaum, Kolhapore, Poona and Nassik, returning to Indore about the 25th January.

The position of affairs of the Central India Agency, as with that of its neighbour, Rajputna, seems to vary greatly in different localities. The parts most seriously affected by the adverse seasons are the northern and eastern districts of Gwalior, nearly the whole of the Native States of Bundelkund, Rewah, and the small States of Nagode, Kothi and Sohawal. The condition of this area is very much the same as that of the adjoining British districts of the North-West and Central Provinces; that is to say, northern and eastern Gwalior are in very much the same plight as the Agra, Etawah and Cawnpore districts. Bundelkund shares the darker fortunes of Jhansi, Hamirpur and Jalaun, while Rewah and the States of the Baghelkund Agency may be compared with the Allahabad and Mirzapore districts on the one side or with Saugor and Jubbulpore on the other.

In Rewah, where the famine-affected area is large and the distress already very marked, the young Maharaja, under the guidance of Captain Pinhey, Political Agent, is doing his utmost to grapple with the situation. Fortunately, the finances of the State, which has not long emerged from a long minority, are in a strong condition and admit of ample provision for the requirements of the position. Relief works have been started in two or three parganas, and it is proposed to start a small-gauge line of railway from the town of Rewah to Satna on the East Indian Railway. The distance between the two places is 31 miles, and, besides its use as a relief-work now, the line would meet a real local want when the crisis is over.

The Ghoogar Canal, which is being pushed on energetically, is proving invaluable as a relief-work during the present dearth. There are about 2,000 people at work in the Hissar District, mostly natives of the Bikanir State, who would have had little other resource without it, and the numbers are rising so rapidly that the establishment are in risk of being swamped with workpeople. There are State relief-works in Bikanir, but the employed are paid in kind, and they appear to prefer our system of payment in cash. The important point is that they have resorted to the works while still in sound health and vigour, while they can sustain the labour and the wages can sustain them. Among the emigrants from Bikanir are many of the zamindar class—a clear indication of the severity of the distress in that State.

The Mohammadan Educational Conference was resumed at Meerut, on Monday, Syed Hussain Belgrami from Hyderabad presiding. Sir Syed Ahmed proposed, and Mr. Beck seconded, resolutions for the management of the Conference, the Central Standing Committee at Aligarh to have control of the business and expenditure, and to arrange for the founding of scholarships. Mohamed Nizam-ud-Din proposed, and Khan Bahadur Hidayetullah seconded, a vote of thanks to the Punjab Government for the Mussulmadan scholarships. Hills and a cold wind render the large encampment uncomfortable.

Mr. Bourdillon, Commissioner of Patna, has distributed his share of the Bengal Distress Relief Fund as follows:—Muzaffarpur and Durbhanga districts, Rs. 5,500 each; Champaran, Rs. 3,500; Saran, Rs. 3,000.

Sir Baker Russel has left Calcutta for a tour of inspection in Assam.

Reports from the Western Himalaya region state that the winter has now set in with full severity and that the snowfall promises to be heavy in Kashmir and the mountains to the west.

Captain W. H. M. Stewart succeeds Captain Chevenix Trench as Assistant to the Resident in Kashmir, the latter officer having been granted leave to Europe.

The relief of the Chitral garrison will, as last year, be carried out at the beginning of the hot weather. No difficulty whatever is expected in moving the regiment, and supplies between the Malakand and Drosh.

The Bengal Secretariat, like that in the other Provinces, as to be strengthened in order to meet the pressure of famine work. Mr. Luson will probably be appointed Assistant Secretary for this purpose.

Throughout parts of Central India, arrangements have been made for meeting the distress which already exists and for combating the famine which threatens. Every Chief is thoroughly alive to the gravity of the situation and to the responsibilities resting upon him as a ruler. Maharaja Scindia has organised relief-works in all the affected parts of his dominions, and, with the aid of the Gwalior Board of Revenue, has issued special instructions to all his revenue officials for dealing with emergency. Funds have been provided for the relief of the distressed, and every effort is being made to keep the people in their villages, to save life, and to prevent emigration. The Goona-Bara Railway, which has before been the means of providing work for as large number of people, still offers employment to as many as 10,000 a day. Should the proposal for the construction of a small-gauge line from Gwalior to Sipri—which the Maharaja is very anxious to undertake at his own expense—be sanctioned by the Government of India, a large fresh field of employment will be provided by its 70 miles of earthwork.

In Bundelkund the Central India Agency has had a more difficult task. Instead of being under the hand of a single ruler, endowed with a good heart and clear head and vast resources at his back, this country is split up into a number of comparatively small States, whose rulers, for the last three years, have been carrying on a losing struggle against the unprosperous seasons. Bad crops and dwindling revenues have already pretty well exhausted their treasuries, and they have not the power to launch out into the expenditure that is absolutely necessary if their people are to be secured against the consequences of the famine. This difficulty has been surmounted by an arrangement which on every ground will commend itself to the approval of the public. The Maharaja Scindhia will advance the money to those States that require it, receiving a guarantee from the Government of India of 4 per cent. interest on his outlay. Thus the needs of the Bundelkund States will be met without aggravating the heavy calls upon the Imperial Government, while the readiness of the Maharaja Scindhia, to come to the assistance of his neighbours in this matter, is another proof of his liberality of mind. No regular scheme of famine work has yet been elaborated; but Captain Ramsay, the Political Agent in Bundelkund, whose knowledge of his charge and influence with the Chiefs and people must be of the greatest value at a crisis like the present, has visited all parts of the Agency and is doing everything that can be done to encourage and aid.

The semi-final game in the Punjab polo tournament, at Lahore, on Monday, was between the 4th Dragoon Guards (team as before) and the Guides (team as before). The umpires were Major Kuper, of the Royal Artillery, and Mr. Fraser, of the 19th Bengal Lancers. The Dragoons had an easy victory by three goals and four subsidiaries to four subsidiaries.

ARRIVAL OF THE CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI.

THE CELEBRATED PIANIST.

The British India steamer Manora, which arrived in Bombay, from Colombo, yesterday morning, brought to Bombay Chevalier de Kontski, whose world-wide reputation as a pianist who has caught the spirit of his tutor Beethoven entitles him to be considered the most famous musical artiste that has set foot in India during the present century. The Chevalier is staying at the Apollo Hotel, and will probably give one or two concerts at the Town Hall before his departure for Calcutta. The sole surviving link with Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelsohn, and the other musical giants of the early part of the century, the Chevalier is 81 years of age. But as that keen observer, the Rev. H. R. Haweis, has remarked, he is young in everything but years. While many pianists have to confess that their powers of manipulation of the instrument have gone at 60, the Chevalier's work has lost none of its delicacy and skill, and his hands are as lithe and supple as though he were still in the prime of manhood. He is accompanied by Madame de Kontski, a charming lady of great literary power, who writes for continental magazines interesting sketches of the places she has visited with the Chevalier during his present tour round the world.

Concerning this tour the Chevalier was very anecdotal and chatty when our representative paid him a visit; but before relating any of his impressions, the chief events of his brilliant career may be briefly summarised. At the tender age of 4½ years, he became a pianist; and, after a short tour, wherein he created a sensation, he studied under many eminent masters, including Beethoven (with whom he spent twelve months) and Dr. Sechter. He later studied in company with Cherubini Auber, Victor Hugo, and other eminent men. In 1829, M. de Kontski played before the Emperor Nicholas of Russia at St. Petersburg, studied under John Field at Moscow, and then entered the Vienna Conservatoire. His oratorio on Schillers' poem "The Bell," secured him, in 1835, the honour of being made a member of the Vienna Academy. During his stay in Paris in 1836 and onwards, he was the friend of Auber, Adam Hugo, Lamartine, Dumas, and other famous men, and with the sanction of Cherubini was appointed a member of the Jury of Award at the Paris Conservatoire. In 1848, he started at Madrid, and received the honorary designation of Pianist to the Queen.

In 1850, he was in Royal circles at Berlin, and whilst visiting Koenigsberg was honoured with the degree of Doctor of Music. At the same time he was decorated Chevalier by the King of Prussia with the art and science medal; in 1852, he was giving concerts in Russia; but in 1863, he was appointed Court Pianist at Berlin, and composed the Coronation March for King Wilhelm, who bestowed on him the Cross of the Crown. In 1870, he married a bride of sixteen—the lady who is now with him—and with her he starred at Perth, Bucharest, Constantinople, Athens, Cairo, Naples, Rome, Florence, Turin, and Paris. In London, he gave six classical recitals at St. George's Hall, and was warmly received, both by press and public.

His memory is marvellous. It is only necessary for him to hear a composition played once, when he can repeat it with the finished touch of a master. His repertoire is inexhaustible, playing from all the great composers. Aside from this, and unlike other great pianists who practice exercises hours each day to acquire perfection in technique, Chevalier de Kontski never goes through those mechanical efforts; his fingers are always ready. Those who know him personally are astounded at this last very exceptional gift.

The Chevalier de Kontski's more recent career may be told in his own words. He remarks:—"My knowledge of America has only been gained during the last ten years. Maurice Strakosch engaged me in Paris for a tour of the States in 1886. I appeared first at the Steinway and Chickering Halls, New York, and during the tour I gave 120 recitals. In 1887, Mr. Strakosch arranged another tour of 100 concerts. I then returned again to Paris, and was engaged some time later to revisit the States with Minnie Hank, the operatic soprano, who created the role of Carmen at Covent Garden. We gave 120 concerts, and I found time to produce at the Academy of Music, New York, my grand romantic opera, "The Sultan of Zanzibar," with Madame Martinez, the Spanish soprano, as prima donna. There is an immense field for concert enterprise in America, and I stayed there until 1894, when I reached San Francisco, intending to take ship for Japan. However, just at that time the American papers received by cable the news that the 70th anniversary of my debut as a child-composer had been celebrated by a leading musical society in Berlin. Immediately I was requisitioned by Adolph Sutro, Mayor of Frisco, and by 82 Railway magnates to stay for a festival in my honour. Mr. Joseph Reading, a rail-road lawyer and a musical enthusiast, arranged this festival, for which the Hans Bulow Orchestra from Berlin, which had been appearing at the Chicago Exhibition under Fritzscheel, was specially engaged, as well as a chorus of 300 voices. The affair took place at the San Francisco Auditorium on 21st February 1895.

"We left San Francisco for Japan in May 1895, and first went to Yokohama, where we spent a month giving concerts to crowded audiences. We were two months at Tokio, and stayed the greater part of the time with the Austrian Minister. We left Japan in August for Shanghai, where I gave two concerts and met the Governor-General of Siberia, General Donckowskiy, who had already sent us an invitation to visit his country. But he found himself commanded to attened the festivities in connection with the coronation of the Czar. When we met him, with his great retinue, aides-de-camp, secretaries, maids-of-honour, and the like—by appointment at Hongkong—he showed us how and when to reach Vladivostock, where, he assured us, he would make himself responsible for our comfort. He wished us to tour in other parts of the East and meet him again at Hongkong in October, and it was so agreed. It will be rather a novelty for a well-known musician to pay Siberia a visit on tour, but the Governor-General assures us that our comfort will be looked after in every way.

"Hongkong was the next port of call, and here the Governor treated us with great kindness. They had just had a visit from a pianist, who was so disappointed with the poorness of the reception he obtained that he wrote angry denunciations in the press describing the residents of Hongkong as "monkeys, not men," since they had no love for good music. For my part, however, I found no cause whatever to complain, for the concerts were, from a numerical point of view, unqualified successes. From Hongkong, we went to Macao and Canton, staying in the latter city with the German Minister. It was a very interesting sight to see the Chinese mandarins and others at the concert I gave, listening with as much interest to the music as the European portion of the audience. Returning to Singapore, we took ship for the Phillipine Islands, and were most cordially received at Manilla by Governor-General Blanco, who gave a party in our honour. We found the people very enthusiastic, the clubs gave us receptions, and the people took the trouble to serenade us at our quarters. After spending some time on the Phillipines we proceeded to Java, where we found the Dutch and other European residents a very musical people. The daughters of the principal native rulers under the protection of the Dutch, twelve princesses, played in the orchestra at our concert, and I was struck with the ability they displayed. After a brief visit to Penang we took ship to Calcutta, arriving there in May last. We had not previously been sufficiently careful to enquire about your Indian seasons, but we soon found out our mistake. After, I had given two concerts, the great heat drove us away, and, instead of visiting Bombay and Madras, as I had intended, we took our passages to Australia. Nothing could be more gratifying than the warmth of the welcome accorded me, and the overflowing nature of the audiencies, both in Australia and New Zealand. The Governors of almost all the provinces patronised our concerts and invited us to their residences.

"We shall make a short stay in India," continued the eminent musician, "and possibly we will visit Burma. We shall then tour in South Africa. After that we shall sail for China, and thence go to Vladivostock to meet that amiable despot Governor-General Donchowskiy, under whose guidance we shall tour in Siberia. I have greatly enjoyed this my last travelling tour, and my health has been good throughout."

THE BUBONIC FEVER.

The returns of the dead as well as the fatal cases for the twenty-four hours ending yesterday, at 10 a.m., are as follows:—

Wards.	Cases.	Deaths.
A (Fort and Colaba)	5	1
B (Mandvie)	8	8
C (Shuleshwar)	17	8
D (Girgaum)	11	4
E (Byculla & Kamatipura)	25	8
F (Parel)	4	2
G (Mahim)	4	5
Parsee Hospital	0	1
Jain Hospital	0	1
Municipal Hospital	0	7
Total	74	45
Grand Total	2,480	1,725

Yesterday afternoon, Dr. Weir, the Health Officer, visited the affected streets in Kamatipura to superintend the shutting off of the house-supply of water and the erection of stand-pipes in the streets, with a view to mitigate the severity of the disease prevailing in the locality. The work of taking off the tiles of the roofs, with a view to allow a free play of sunlight upon the dark parts of the houses, was being proceeded with. A great deal of difficulty has been experienced in getting a sufficient number of men to do the work, and much opposition has been offered to the shutting of the water-supply in the houses. The officers of the Health Department, however, have been doing their best under the circumstances.

It is officially notified that the services of Surgeon-Captain W. F. Jennings, M.B., C.M., have been placed at the disposal of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, for duty in connection with the bubonic plague with effect from the 4th instant.

The weekly table of mortality shows that the 390 deaths from bubonic fever for the week ending December 29 were distributed among the races and castes in the following proportion:—Jains 8, Brahmins 13, Bhagats 1, Hindus of other castes 24, low caste Hindus 42, Mussalmans 29, Parsees 2, Jews 2, Native Christians 23, Eurasians 2; total 390.

THE WORK OF THE DRAINAGE DEPARTMENT.

The great organising capacity of Mr. James, the Drainage Engineer, has been put to the test constantly during the last few weeks. The supply of labour has been by no means commensurate with the demands made upon the Department, and the tendency is for the supply to diminish. There has been no large an exodus from the city that it is almost hopeless to expect an increased number of hands; and, under these circumstances, Mr. James takes great care to avoid sickness and consequent panic amongst his men. They are well looked after and provided with disinfectants, and, should an indication to join in the flight be observable, provision will promptly be made for their segregation. The freedom from sickness of the men is very noteworthy, the number of cases having been very small. It is of the utmost importance to retain the men who remain at work, and Mr. James is to be congratulated upon having succeeded in so doing.

The work done in Manivie when the disease first appeared there, is being carried on now in all the more affected parts of the city. Special attention is being paid to Kamatipura. Each house is being visited and thoroughly cleaned and lime-washed inside and out. The lime-wash is only slacked immediately before being used, so as to render it all the more efficacious as a disinfectant. Where occupants object to this being done by Municipal servants, they are given the material and allowed to do the work themselves, the houses being subsequently inspected to see how far the promises given by the occupants have been carried out. On the whole the people are very civil, and do not throw obstacles in the way. They are, of course, less tractable in regard to the cutting off of the supply of water in the chawls, where they have been wont to so abuse its use, and they do not like the idea of fetching it from the street. There are 120 men engaged on this work in Kamatipura.

The Department has also erected segregation camps for the healthy in Northbrook Gardens and in Cannaught Road, near the Victoria Gardens. The former camp will give accommodation to 1,000 people, while the latter will meet the wants of about one-fourth of that number. In both camps separate accommodation is provided for Hindus and Mahomedans, and high caste Hindus are also separately accommodated.

Meanwhile the ordinary work of the Department is being steadily proceeded with, and the special staff obtained for house-connection purposes is being kept working. Upon the request of the Health Officer, Mr. James has made arrangements for the construction of house-connections at the expense of the owners, in Kalbadevi Chowkey. This precaution is deemed necessary, since it is felt that if the disease obtains a firm hold in that badly-drained district it will only be dislodged with the utmost difficulty.

Under an arrangement come to between Major Roughton and the Health Officer, 20 members of the Volunteer Artillery will assemble at the Nesbit Road Headquarters, this morning, at 7-30, for the purpose of assisting the Drainage Department in the work of cleansing and disinfection it has in hand. According to present arrangements, the Volunteers will be taken to Perse Lane, Nagpada (off the Bhendy Bazaar), and will be provided with the necessary material and utensils for cleansing and lime-washing dwellings. Owing to the pressure of other work in hand, Mr. James will be unable to draft many of his men to assist the Volunteers. As the quarter is occupied by ignorant and fanatical Mahomedans a lively time may be looked for by the twenty citizens, who thus take upon themselves these duties. There will be similar number of Volunteers to-morrow and again on Sunday.

The in-coming mail steamer will bring out the plant and machinery for the electrolyzing of sea water, ordered by cable some weeks back. It is hoped that the plant will be got into working order in about 10 days, and that the system which has proved so efficacious elsewhere as a disinfectant will have been given a

Wells, and undergo a detention of a few hours whilst all baggage is fumigated.

Quarantine has not been imposed at Italian or French ports and no difficulties are placed in the way of passengers landing at Brindisi or Marseilles. According to the latest edict of the French authorities no detention will take place at Marseilles to passengers or steamers provided a case of plague has not occurred on board within 9 days of arrival at Marseilles, but in the event of a case having broken out, the ship and passengers will be detained in quarantine until the expiry of the 9 days' limit. From the attitude which has been assumed by the authorities at the various Continental ports, it does not appear that any further steps will be taken against steamers from Bombay, especially as a long interval elapses between the departure of a vessel and its arrival at the Continent.

QUARENTINE AT ADEN.

In exercise of the power conferred by Act I of 1870, the following rules for Quarantine against plague have been made by the Government of Bombay with the previous sanction of the Governor-General-in-Council; they have effect from to-day in the Ports of Aden, Perim, and the Somali Coast, as a temporary measure :—

I.—The Commander of every vessel, including buggalows or other native craft, arriving at Aden, Perim, and the Somali Coast from Karachi shall, before entering the harbour, hoist a yellow flag (or if entering a port at night time, show whatever quarantine light signals are customary in the port) and indicate by signal the port from which such vessel has come, and shall keep such flag and signals flying until permitted to take them down as hereinafter provided. The pilot for going alongside a vessel from Karachi shall direct the flag prescribed above to be hoisted, if it has not already been done.

II.—Such Commander shall not, without first having obtained permission as hereinafter provided, allow any communication, except orally, with the shore or any other vessel or boat, excepting with the boat supplying pilots, and in that case communication shall be limited to receiving on board the pilot, his servant, and baggage.

III.—On any such arrival being signalled, the Health Officer of the Port shall, as soon as possible, go alongside the vessel and ascertain by enquiry from the Commander whether any person on board is suffering, or has during the voyage suffered, from plague, and if the Health Officer is satisfied by such enquiries that no person is suffering or has during the voyage has suffered, from plague, and if the ship carries a qualified Medical Officer, quarantine shall be dispensed with, and pratique granted.

If the vessel does not carry a qualified Medical Officer, he shall direct the Commander to take the vessel to the quarantine anchorage duly appointed and notified by the President, and there to remain for a period of eight clear days from the day of arrival in the harbour. The Health Officer shall also direct the Commander to prohibit, during the period for which the vessel remains at the quarantine anchorage as aforesaid, all communication, except such as is hereinafter provided for, between such vessel and the shore or other vessels and boats in the harbour.

IV.—If the Health Officer as the result of the enquiry made under paragraph III above shall have reason to believe that the vessel when she vessel arrives in the harbour that any person on board is suffering, or during the voyage has suffered, from plague, he shall direct the Commander to take the vessel to the quarantine anchorage, as aforesaid, and there to remain for a period of fifteen days from the day of arrival in the harbour and shall further direct that during such fifteen days intercourse between the said vessel and the shore or other vessels and boats in the harbour shall be prohibited as provided in Rule III.

V.—If during the period a vessel is at the quarantine anchorage aforesaid any case or cases of plague should occur on board the said vessel shall remain in quarantine for a period of fifteen days from the date of termination of the last case either by death, recovery or removal from the vessel, and be subject to all the prohibitions provided for in Rules III and IV.

VI.—When any vessel has been placed in quarantine as aforesaid, the Health Officer may direct the removal of so many of the passengers and crew as may not be suffering from illness, and whose services may not be required on board the vessel, to such particular spots as may from time to time be selected by the Resident as places of quarantine, there to remain for a period of eight days, or if the vessel has been placed in quarantine for fifteen days, for a period of fifteen days. If a case of plague occurs among such passengers and crew during any such period, they shall remain in a place of quarantine for a period of fifteen days from the date of the occurrence of the last case of such illness.

VII.—Any mails or cargo which may be brought by such vessel shall be landed under such precautions as the Health Officer may deem necessary to prevent the spread of the disease.

VIII.—It will be the duty of the Port Officer to facilitate the conveyance to all vessels in quarantine of such supplies of provisions, stores, and other articles as may be required by those on board. Such supplies will be placed on the boats of the vessels in quarantine to be subsequently removed by members of their crews.

IX.—All vessels arriving at Aden, Perim, and the Somali Coast, which may have communicated with vessels coming from Karachi shall be subjected to the same rules as vessels arriving at Aden, Perim, and the Somali Coast from Karachi.

LAVISH WASTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—From time immemorial in the world's history, a holocaust has been deemed necessary for the appeasing of offended dignity or as a redress or palliation for a public calamity. In the present crisis, history repeats itself, and we have an example of a vicarious "pillory" of the Municipal Commissioner and Health Officer before the surface of a virulent public indignation has subsided in faults of which they are entirely guiltless. That the plague exists in this city, and has caused its desolation and paralysed its trade, is a fact that cannot be denied; but enquiry into the *fons et origo mali* brings us in calmer moments into another elementary factor which has neither been discussed seriously nor considered in its entirety,—the drainage system of Bombay. It has been, and will be admitted first, from evidence of the plague was first noted as the Mandvie district, in the vicinity of a "condemned system of sewers." These, as circumstances further developed, were shown to be in a culpably neglected and dangerous state; reeking with filth and abomination, a monumental testimony of years of culpable neglect on the part of the Municipality. Concurrently with the opening of the main sewer at regulated intervals, and the diffusion of mephitic and germ-laden exhalations therefrom, a marked increase in the attacks and mortality from the disease took place, and *mirabile dictu* in the houses all along the course of the opened up sewer. The Health Officer and the Sanitary Executive, by the energetic measures adopted in the flushing and purification of the sewers and the affected houses, have now rendered Mandvie, which was notoriously one of the unhealthiest districts of Bombay, by comparison at the present, one of the healthiest. Enquiry re the incidence of the disease at Parel Road but too plainly shows that the propinquity of the diseased and the high mortality which accrued, were concomitant with the opening of sewers—the decrease of attacks and mortality following the closing of the same.

That the disease has been germ-bred goes without saying, quite as much as are the paludal or other zymotic diseases; that it is infectious is unquestionable; that it is contagious is a matter of comment, individual susceptibility being a determining factor, quite as in the case of malarial or the other germ-bred fevers. That a latent or incubatory period exists, varying from a few hours to several days, has been the general consensus of opinion. That the method of its dissemination is aerial as well as alimentary is unquestionable. Its portability in the latent or incubatory state has been demonstrated by the fact that people who have migrated to distant parts of the country have developed the disease and died, or perhaps recovered, at these distant places, there being no further development of the disease in the localities to which they had wended their way. It is a noted fact that the disease was at first imported into the other parts of the city by people whose business or domestic avocations necessitated their stay at Mandvie during a portion of the twenty, four hours.

The rat mortality pointed in no uncertain manner to the fact that these denizens of the sewers were poisoned by the pestiferous exhalations from these pent up garners of abomination and death and seeking to escape therefrom into the open air, littered the streets with their dead and dying bodies—that they were found dead in granaries was an alternative to unconscious death. The incidence of a rat mortality in other "foci" of the disease and in the vicinity of choked and ill-tended sewers is very suggestive.

The drainage system has been characterised by a perpetual series of blunders, and has proved itself to be what it is—*results*, are now very appreciable *in the plague* which is but too clearly traceable to a defective and neglected sewage system, and not to the silly high falutin twaddle enunciated by the great specialist who has ridden bacteriology to death in our midst.

Surgeon-Captain Jennings deserves recognition for the municipal scientific and rational lines on which he has grappled with himself.

The remedy for the stamping out of the plague, is the removal of the causation thereof, *i.e.*, the filth and pollutation which exists in the defective drainage system in certain parts of this city, where the gradients in many of the sewers are almost inappreciable.

If fact and not, fantasy be sought for, a complete and searching enquiry into the whole drainage system with a copious and well-regulated supply of sea-water—per the dilution and disinfection (by of one million tons of sewage with one ton of permanganate of potash, or other disinfectant—the bare idea of which, to say the least, is Quixotic, or, to use a mild expression, savours of a vicarious eccentricity. The Engineering Executive of years gone by, have a deal to answer for *re* sins of omission, for without their permission or supervision the jerry builder and the factor of the highly insanitary dens (which unhappily abounded in this city) could not have run riot. The capitalists and owners of these wretched dens have been the bane and the despair of the Health Officer in effecting sanitary reform, owing to the weakness of the law and powerful vested interests. The crisis has arrived when the Government should with a strong hand demand the *sanitary* housing of its subjects on sanitary and humanitarian principles, and not leave them victims of death and disease sacrified to the will and rapacity of their landlords. A Sanitary Commission ought to report on, and demand the demolition, and immediate reconstruction of these horrible dens, many of which are in a more or less dilapidated and malodorous condition. Herculean efforts I believe have already been inaugurated by Mr. James of the Engineering Executive in the lines adverted to, and a speedy eradication of the disease will, it is to be hoped, be brought about.

In conclusion I would enter my protest against the lavish waste of fresh water which has occurred, and still continues, with no definite result, except that of laying down the seeds for a new calamity during the summer months—a scarcity of water.—Yours, &c.,

Dec. 30. SPERO MELIORA.

THE DANGERS OF BANDORA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—It is to be greatly regretted that the plague is firm in the Kotiwada Bazaar Districts, and that within a short distance of this street there should be daily deaths more or same as six. This disease first prevailed in a Khoja family, who had come here from Bombay, and since then it has kept its permanent appearance. If our authorities had taken some precautions then, we would have not been in the fearful condition as we are now. Our natives who having several houses have enjoyed the benefit of good rent and the poor are dying.

The Municipality have engaged several extra hands to keep the town clean. The inspector in chief has been alloted with a horse and the others are running after him. This is the first instance here, his superior (the Secretary) has to walk on foot. I don't think this increase of population will give any profit to the Municipality; on the other hand, it will make us suffer by the extra Municipal expenses. Few people have several houses to let and enjoy the fortune, but several people have to enjoy the misfortune. I agree with Mr. Talcherkar that owners of fields should allot land to the sufferers, and I would add those who have got their properties, may be E. I. or W.I., they should as a matter of fact come forward to render help by means of money and shelter to those families who have suffered. In one family out of nine six died and three are laid up or nearly dead.

The natives of this place have also been suffering for want of sufficient fish and vegetable. The removal of the Bazaar has made a great sensation amongst the Dandia fishermen. Some of them come here to sell fish. The Municipality should now buy some from Dandia, and bring it for sale into their mandap Bazaar. Some times one or two instead of fifty baskets of fish are seen in the mandap. The fish is spread for sale on mat, in new mandaps, dust of the ground is blowing over, ants are running upon. So the mutton market and the vegetable baskets are also kept on ground. In short, the articles sold in the Bazaar are subjected to dust of the ground, &c. The tea-shop is a great nuisance in the mandap.

There is one thing to be noticed, that if the owner of the cart in which the fish and other markets are erected and opened wanted to have the cart fish-manured, the Municipality would have objected on the ground that it would give stench. The old fish-market on the sea shore is now lying idle.

I do not agree with Mr. Langrana's proposal "a great sanitary reform would be effected by cutting up a road or two through these (Bazaar Kolivady-healthy quarters." I know Mr. Langrana is living here for some years, but from his suggestion, I think he does not know the circumstances of the people here; if any portion of their small house is cut, it will do a great harm to their poor conveniences. The locality has been spoiled now, as big houses are small in the sea-shore behind the lines of their houses and huts, consequently those people do not get fresh breeze. Those big houses have their own privies by which they people suffer, and have spoiled their comfort. Thank God that contemplated view of the Municipality to cover the drain which is to the north of the Kolivada Road was not done, and converted into a footpath, otherwise Bandora would have been no where. The owners of the Bombalwady would have profited thereby, but the large public here would have suffered this time exceedingly.

It is to be greatly regretted that the beef shops which are lately opened on the way of the public to the new fish and other markets were as beginning kept half opened, but now the doors or shutters are kept wide open, which is a great annyance to the passers-by, and our Hindu gurus and Parsee jezivie fathers are deaf to the cry.

In concluding I hope our civic fathers will see that the new comers have not made thick crowd in one house. The water-supply should be arranged within the reach of every soul. Meter system in these days would do great harm. The Bombay Municipality is a good view body and they will not go back on it, accommodating the reasonable request of our civic fathers on the good principal that lots of Bombaites have taken their shelters here, &c.—Yours, &c.,

Bandora, Dec. 29. A BANDORIAN.

OVERCROWDED SALSETTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Referring to a letter which appeared in the issue of the 21st instant, signed by "A Passenger," regarding the advisability of local trains, which runs as far as Andheri being made to run up to Borivli, I take this opportunity to throw more light on the subject. Since the breaking out of the plague in Bombay many people have sought refuge in country places in the neighbouring Island of Salsette, Malad, Borivli, and Goregaum, being in close proximity to Railway stations; of course, have enjoyed a prominent part in harbouring these people, and in consequence the number of pass-holders and the casual passengers is greatly swelled (I should say almost doubled). At present what is most felt here is the urgent necessity for having more local trains. The Railway arrangements do not meet the convenience of the public considering the number of passengers daily fast on the increase. Under the circumstances, it would be a great boon if the the Railway authorities could see their way to run the following trains, leaving Colaba at 5-15 and 7-10 a.m., and 5-25 p.m. (Sunday times), as far as Borivli, as the first 8-am. which leaves Virar at 8-15 a.m. either be returned from Borivli, as to cover such a long distance after it reaches Church Gate five or ten minutes after the time. If this is not attributable to longi distance, some other arrangement be made to reach the Church Gate Station at least at 9-50 a.m. This would give everyone an opportunity of reaching their respective offices in time, i.e., at 10 o'clock.

In two instances the train arrived Church Gate at 10-50 a.m. and 1 p.m. On a former occasion it was a mail-day. This might result in losing by the many employees of their situations. The temptation to travel by this train is great as it saves nearly an hour to start from home.—Yours, &c.,

AN OBSERVER.

THE NEED OF PRAYER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The Prophet Jonah could not have been more earnest in his appeal to the people of Nineveh than the writer "E. B. D. C." In his letter to the people of Bombay, not content with the prayers already offered last Tuesday week by the Christian Bombay and those which were before from every temple and shrine, "E. B. D. C." now asks for a general holiday to-day and a unanimous cry to Heaven for the removal of the scourge from our midst. It may be taken for granted that, when such a day is announced, the obligation of observing a fast and wearing sackcloth will not be lost sight of. To my uncultured mind, the letter in question contains everything to commend it to the respectful attention of all; but, unfortunately, is not up-to-date "E. B. D. C." words would, perhaps, have been worth their weight in gold on the 25th December 1896, but to-day the people are inclined to assign the palm to preachers who are "practical and pedestrian." If there be any who have really grown despondent at the apparent impotency of science, and if the wisdom and philosophy of the XIXth century are summed up in E. B. D. C.'s letter, then I aver, Sir, that Pasteur and Tyndall have laboured in vain.—Yours, &c., J. B.

THE BULESHWAR PINJRAPOLE NUISANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I regret to see that the Pinjrapole authorities take no stringent measures to destroy the emanation of the poisonous stench from the bhusa-sheds, although they had been strictly warned more than once by the Municipal authorities to do so. Helplessly they got the bhusa removed from the sheds on the receipt of a twenty-four hours' notice from the Municipal authorities; but there is no vigilance and carelessness in the removal was the same as it is now in paying no attention whatever—why, the nauseating odour is still there. The long roof of the sheds is amazingly covered inside and outside with thick layers of the bhusa complained of, and the stench is horribly injurious and even fatal to the health of all the neighbouring inhabitants. It is quite necessary that the Municipal authorities should once more take up this matter in hand and get the roof immediately pulled down or washed and cleaned, or adopt such measures as would remove our grievance. Looking to the critical state of affairs and seriousness of the grievance itself, I venture to suggest to the Health Department to make the best use of their rightful authority and powers in getting the roof of the sheds in question completely pulled down and the place washed by the help of an engine.—Yours &c.

COMPLAINT.

TWELFTH INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

(Continued from yesterday's *Bombay Gazette*.)

PRESENT CONDITION OF INDIA.

If you will look at the map of India you will find that India has the appearance of a one-legged horse. India has from time to time been a prey to foreign invasions from without and to internecine wars within. Famine periodically visits the land, and so does plague. English rule has, however, stopped foreign invasion, and the Pax Britannica has put an end to internecine wars. Western arts and Western methods are employed to prevent—at all events to check—famine and plague, to keep them within gradually diminishing limits, and, under steadily increasing control, it is to be hoped that these monster evils will, in the near future, be completely laid at rest. The resources of the country are being gradually developed, and its trade is increasing. Public expenditure, however, under British rule, is increasing by leaps and bounds far beyond the national income that is at present realized, or that can reasonably be expected to be realized in the near future. The average income per year per head of population is, in England, £25 (thirty three pounds sterling); in France, £23 (twenty-three pounds sterling); in Turkey in Europe, £1 (four pounds sterling); whilst in India, it is only Rs. 27 (twenty-seven rupees) or, at 1s. 4d. per rupee, £1-14-6 (one pound sterling fourteen shillings and six-pence). Thus the average income per year per head of population in India is about (one-thirteenth) of the average income per year per head of population in England; or, in other words, so far as the annual income is concerned, England is thirteen times better off than India, or India is thirteen times worse off than England. Again, the population of India is mostly agricultural. The ratio of town population to country population in India is one to twelve, that is, the agricultural population of India is 12-13 (twelve-thirteenths) of the total population of the country. In England, the ratio of town population to country population is two to one, that is the agricultural population in England is only ⅓ (one-third) of the total population of the country. Thus town population, as compared to country population, is, in England, 24 to 12, whilst in India, it is 1-13; or, in other words, so far as the ratio of proportion of town population to country population is concerned, England is 24 (twenty-four) times better off than India. Again, the population of British India is in round numbers, 22 (twenty-two) crores, whilst the total Imperial taxation, in round numbers, is Rs. 95 (rupees ninety-five) crores, or, in round numbers, Rs. 4·8 (rupees four and annas eight) per head of population; and, as the average annual income per head is Rs. 27 (rupees twenty-seven), the percentage of taxation to annual income is 4½ to 27, that is, sixteen and a half per cent. The population of the United Kingdom is, in round numbers, about five crores, whilst the total Imperial taxation is a little more than that of India and comes to about Rs. 35 (rupees twenty-five) per head; and as the average annual income per head is £33, the percentage of taxation to income comes to about six per cent. Thus, so far as the percentage of taxation to income is concerned, India is two and a half times worse off than England. Moreover, it is a well-known fact, the same percentage of tax to income when levied on persons having good income, may be easily borne by them and may not be at all felt by them; when levied on persons having poor incomes—may be heavily felt—may even become wholly unbearable. In fact, this incidence is now well admitted in the case of income tax, and it is for this reason that, in levying that tax, incomes under a certain amount are wholly exempted, and on incomes above that amount and up to a certain amount, there is a sliding scale put into operation. Thus the ratio of the percentage of taxation to income, in the case of India, though nominally only two-and-a-half times higher than the ratio in the case of England, is an incidence, considerably more heavy, and India is, therefore, in reality considerably worse off than that ratio indicates. Again, in the year 1849-50, the population of British India was about 15 crores, whilst the expenditure was about 20 crores. In the year 1894-95 the population was about twenty two crores, whilst the expenditure was about ninety five crores. The increase, in population, therefore, was 22-15, or about fifty per cent., whilst the increase in taxation was 95-27, or about three hundred and fifty per cent., that is, the growth of expenditure was seven times in excess of the growth of population. During the same period, the charges of collection rose from 6·06 to 9·75, that is, more than fifty per cent.; the expenditure on civil administration rose from 6 to 16·83, that is, more than 240 per cent.; and the expenditure on Army rose from 11·39 to 24·31, that is, more than 213 per cent. Again, the estimated debt of British India for the year 1896-97 is one hundred and seventy-six crores (one million pounds), whilst that of Great Britain is 2750 (six hundred and sixty million pounds). Thus the Indian debt is about one-fifth of the British debt, whilst the capacity of India for repayment of debt, as judged by the average annual income per head of population, is only one-nineteenth. Again, the debt of Great Britain in the year 1875 was £780 (seven hundred and eighty million pounds); and India £290 (one hundred and thirty million pounds). Thus, from the year 1875 to the year 1895, the British debt is reduced by £120 (one hundred and twenty million pounds), whilst that of India, only by 23 (three million pounds). Again, the rate of interest on public loan in England, in the year 1875, was 3¼ (three and one-fourth) per cent.; in India, 4 (four per cent.), and there is still a corresponding difference in favour of England and against India. Again, Great Britain annually pays by way of interest, 12s. 9d. (twelve shillings and nine pence) per head; and, as the average annual income per head is £33 in England, the proportion of interest to income is nearly two per cent. India annually pays, by way of interest, annas three and pies nine per head; and, as the average annual income per head is Rs. 27 in India, the proportion of interest to income is nearly one per cent. Thus a British subject, so far as his average income is concerned, has to pay, by way of interest on national debt, only two per cent. out of his average income, whilst an Indian subject, who, so far as his average income is concerned, is nineteen times worse off than a British subject, has to pay one per cent., that is, in this respect also, is nine times worse off than the British subject. Again, the Imperial expenditure of the United Kingdom has risen from 81 (eighty-one million pounds) in the year 1881 to 91 (ninety-four millions) in the year 1895. This addition is caused, for the most part, by an increase of the naval and military from 25 (twenty-five) to 38 (thirty-eight millions), an exceptional and temporary measure. The charges of the national debt have decreased from 28 (twenty-eight) to 25 (twenty-five millions), and the debt itself from 770 (seven hundred and seventy) to 660 (six hundred and sixty) millions. The Imperial expenditure of India has risen from 71 (seventy-one) crores in the year 1881 to 95 (ninety four and a half crores) in the year 1894. The charges on the national debt have, contrary to what has happened in England, instead of decreasing, risen from 4·85 (four crores and eighty-five lakhs of rupees) in the year 1881 to 5·64 (five crores and sixty lakhs) in the year 1894, and the debt itself has increased from the year 1881 to the year 1894 as follows, that is, permanent debt in India from 93 (ninety three crores) and odd Rs. 104 (one hundred and four crores) and odd, and permanent debt in England from 69,271,088 (sixty nine millions and odd) Rs. 1,14,005,823 (one hundred and fourteen millions and odd). Again, the total land, according to the survey of India, is 539,848,300 (five hundred and thirty nine and odd). Of this land actually cropped is 193,600,688 (one hundred and ninety six millions and odd); current fallows, thirty millions and odd; available for cultivation, 99 (ninety nine millions) and odd; not available for cultivation, 113 (one hundred and thirteen millions) and odd. Forests, 62 (sixty two millions). The average incident of Government Revenue per cultivated acre is Rs. 1-2-2·5 (one rupee three annas and two and two-fifths pies). The population of British India is 22 (twenty two crores). The average acreage under food crops is 1890 (eighteen crores and odd). The average of food-crops per acre (both irrigated and unirrigated) is 931 ton or 694 (six hundred and ninety four pounds). The total of food crops is 570 (five crores seventy-six) lakhs tons. The average consumption of food grains per head of the population is 5·5 lbs. (five hundred and eighty five pounds) or per day 1·60 lbs. (one pound and six-tenths pounds). The total consumption is 5·77 (five crores and seventy-seven lakhs) tons. It is clear from the above facts and figures, that India is a very poor country; that it is an agricultural country with but few manufactures; that Indians are a poor nation, living from hand to mouth—indeed, some of them actually starving and many of them having barely one meal a day; that taxation is very heavy; that charges for collection and the cost of administration, both civil and military, have increased far beyond the capacity of meeting them; that, notwithstanding the heavy taxation, national debt—specially the gold debt and the charges to meet such debt—are steadily increasing.

The table, recently prepared by Mr. W. Martin Wood, formely editor of the *Times of India*, whose knowledge of Indian finance and economics is surpassed by few, and who in his retirement still takes a deep and abiding interest in Indian affairs, gives the financial condition of the country at a glance so well that I will reproduce it here for your information.

Comparison of three Stages of Increase in Indian Expenditure during the last thirty years, that is, from June 1864-65 to 1894-95.

Heads of Expenditure, etc.	1864-65.		1874-75.		1894-95.		Increase.	
	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx
(a) Gross Expenditure	.....	43840000	.....	69073000	.....	95407000	.....	51567000
Deduct chief items of outlay not being Administrative Charges :—								
Opium—Cultivation and Collection	2327780	.....	2360300	.....	4130000	.....	1802220	.....
Salt—Production and Collection	4621230	.....	4902580	.....	6000000	.....	1378770	.....
Railways—Working Expenses	1505130	.....	1918000	.....	7170000	.....	5251870	.....
	.....	8454140	.....	9180880	.....	17300000	.....	8119120
(b) State Expenditure (Civil and Military)	.....	4118660	.....	5053030	.....	7787970	.....	3669310
(c) Army Charges (adding Military Works charged to Revenue and deducting Receipts)	.....	13688000	.....	15384000	.....	22577000	.....	8889000
(d) Civil Expenditure (including Post, Telegraph & Mint)	.....	2550800	.....	3496740	.....	5384000	.....	2833200
(e) Aggregate (Net) Military Expenditure (in three decades)	.....	.....	.....	Rx 162461818	.....	.....	.....	.....
To the decade ending 1884-85 must be added the contribution from the British Treasury, five millions sterling, approximately.								
(f) Public Debt at the period	.....	{ Rx 7415768	.....	22736768	.....	{ 9313225	.....	19154028
(g) Council Bills drawn for in the year	.....	{ 2261125103	.....	4257016	.....	{ 6997108	.....	11610140
(h) Home Charges during the year	.....	8672917	.....	10341615	.....	13758900	.....	15383200
(i) Excess of India's Exports over Imports	...	21497495	.....	12905585	.....	17537406	.....	15537000
(k) Arrears due from Guaranteed Railway Companies for interest in excess of net earnings	...	Rx 19950000	.....	13620000	.....	15630000	.....	34020000
	.....	50350000	.....	24020000	.....	29500000	.....	2950000

Heads of Expenditure, etc.	1884-85.		1894-95.		Increase.	
	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx	Rx
(a) Gross Expenditure	.....	71238970	.....	94163000	.....	43230000
Deduct chief items of outlay not being Administrative Charges :— Opium—Cultivation and Collection	2336340	.....	1648000	.....	1811660	.....
Salt—Production & Collection	4493238	.....	4975000	.....	481762	.....
Railways—Working Expenses	12948296	.....	23822000	.....	10873704	.....
	.....	19777974	.....	33645000	.....	13867400
(b) State Expenditure (Civil and Military)	.....	53003798	.....	68 [illegible]	.....	39803570
(c) Army Charges (adding Military Works charged to Revenue and deducting Receipts)	.....	17456421	.....	24338000	.....	8149740
(d) Civil Expenditure (including Post, Telegraph & Mint)	.....	9754372	.....	14057400	.....	18458899
(e) Aggregate (Net) Military Expenditure (in three decades)	18429075 / 5850000 / 19077975		28006743 Including Special Defence Works.		8928668	
(f) Public Debt at the period	.....	{ 9313225	.....	19154028	.....	19691931
(g) Council Bills drawn for in the year	.....	{ 6997108	.....	11610140	.....	4613032
(h) Home Charges during the year	.....	13758900	.....	15382200	.....	3892327
(i) Excess of India's Exports over Imports	.....	17537406	.....	4553180	.....	10397005
(k) Arrears due from Guaranteed Railway Companies for interest in excess of net earnings	.....	15630000	.....	3403200	.....	
	.....	2950	.....	[illegible]	.....	

Again, in the words of another Englishman, money is leaving the country without commercial "equivalent" to the tune of £30,000,000 (twenty-five millions pounds) yearly, or if you take the present fall of the rupee value in exchange, then to the tune of forty millions pounds yearly. Under these circumstances, is it possible that the ability of the country to bear any fresh taxation is exhausted, and any further burden on the tax-payers would simply break their back—a dangerous consequence to be avoided at all hazard. Yet it is stated that Indians should remain silent, forsooth because it will be an act of disloyalty to discuss, ay, even to discuss in a loyal and constitutional manner with the best of motives, honorable in themselves and calculated to ensure the safety of the country and the maintenance of the British rule in India, moderate measures of reform. It is true that English rule in India has done much for India, but much more yet remains to be done, and it is a matter of extreme surprise as well as of deep regret that the people of India's objection above referred to comes from people who, to say the least of it, ought to know better. With the above facts and figures, and it is certainly not an overdrawn picture, glaring in their faces, all true lovers of their country, and of its inhabitants, and of its rulers, possessing the most ordinary common sense if they have even a spark of humanity left in them, ought to sobe stir themselves, and, leaving aside all differences of race, creed, and forgetting even just resentment, if there is any, join with their fellow-countrymen in the movement—sober and temperate as it is—expressly organised for the amelioration of the country, of their countrymen themselves included. The objectionists should remember that even the most honest and the best regulated administration has constant need of proper criticism, even at the best of times. For all Governments are, in their nature, monopolists, and as such have constantly to be watched and warned. In India, moreover, on account of its foreign character, it is excessively bureaucratic, more than other Governments in the world are, and hence the greater necessity for constant watchful criticism on the part of the people. The Government of India, moreover, consisting as it does of capable and well-meaning gentlemen, from the nature of its position and constitution, between two conflicting interests, the interests of England and the interests of India, and it is the sacred duty of all loyal Indian subjects to strengthen the hands of the Government of India in its laudable efforts to obtain financial justice for India by moral support of the united Indian nation; and, judged from this point of view, keeping aloof from the congress movement is not only undesirable but may even merit censure.

If the short sketch above given of the Financial result of the British administration in India for one century only be correct, we are necessarily forced to ask "If these be the results in the green leaf, what will they be in the dry wood?" And yet Indian Mussalmans still hold aloof, alike from Western education and from those political movements among our countrymen to which Western education has given rise and when appealed to, they talk of difficulties in their way and ask for special encouragement and special facilities and special privileges. "Special encouragement to any class" said the education commission, "is in itself an evil, and it will be a sore reproach to the Mussalmans if the pride they have shown in other matters do not induce them up to a more honorable activity; so a determination that whatever their backwardness in the past they will not suffer themselves to be outstripped in the future; to a conviction that self-help and self-sacrifice are at once nobler principles of conduct and surer paths to wordly success than a sectarian reserve or the hope of exceptional indulgence."

Indeed it will be a happy day for India when the disproportion between the Mohomedans who ought to be at school, and those who are actually at school, is reduced to the lowest possible minimum, and the Indian Mussalmans, as a body, make it a point to educate their children and actively co-operate in all the public movements in the country generally, and especially "our good congress, the germ of future federated parliament...which hearts honest, true and unselfish" and investigate in unregenerate heedless battle for justice and freedom and specially make a beginning now when all minor sources of anxiety are overshadowed by the cloud now impending over our beloved land in which we too plainly discern the gloomy spectre of famine frowning down upon...reeming, frugal and ceaselessly industrious population and join in asking a redress at the hands of the Government and in expressing disapproval of the mistaken system, whereby the entire resources of 220 millions of people are placed at the disposal of able and well meaning but nevertheless foreigners, who cannot in the nature of things sufficiently and adequately appreciate the wants, the necessities, the real condition of the people over whom they rule, and are naturally, though unconsciously, drifting to the conclusion that India is to be ruled for the glory of Great Britain and not for the good of her own people. That this system is a mistaken one and that a strong financial check is necessary is now admitted by eminent Englishmen themselves. Lord Welby, President of the Royal Commission now sitting, says: "Sir David Barbour made a criticism, which I think all officers connected with Financial departments must allow and all criticism of some application, namely, that sufficient attention is not given by the departments in India to the financial question. They hardly appreciate the gravity of it, and do not forecast what the financial effect of the measures on which they are bent may be. That, of course, is a defect common to all governments. The heads of different departments very seldom take a general view of the effect of their administration. They are anxious to carry out measures which they think are important." Sir David Barbour say: "I certainly think that some thing is very desirable, which would ensure greater attention being paid to financial consideration in connection with the Government of India. I think it would be better for India, better all round, if more attention were given to the financial question, and if we went more slowly in periods of great apparent financial prosperity." Sir Auckland Colvin agrees with Sir David Barbour in the opinion. Lord Welby further says: "The point of Sir David Barbour's criticism, I think, might be put thus: that in a country like India where deficits are more dangerous than they would be here, where new taxation is more difficult than it would be here, the Government, as a whole, does not give sufficient attention to what may be the financial results of measures which it adopts." ...Whereupon Sir Auckland Colvin remarks, "I agree entirely to that, that in a country where the tax-payer is an alien, and is not able to make his voice directly heard, the need of giving close attention to economy in administration is greater than it would otherwise be." From these remarks coming as they do from such high authorities this congress will be perfectly justified in coming to the conclusion that "the discussion upon the Budget, both in India and in Parliament, needs to be converted from a farce into a reality, and that all thinking and reasonable men will be justified in expecting all the races inhabiting British India to join the congress and co-operate with it in the cause of their country and of themselves indeed, I have a presentiment that, in the very near future my co religionists will not only join the Congress movement, but take active part in moulding its said will decree the highest prize of their civic life to be permitted to preside at its sittings.

(*To be continued.*)

H. M.'S CUSTOMS SERVICE BALL.

THE annual ball of Her Majesty's Customs Service came off, yesterday, in the Town Hall. The hall was festively decorated with flags and buntings. On the platform was placed the Customs Boat fully rigged with sail and oars, and along it were model steamers, tokens of the Harbour Service. Large mirrors adorned the walls, while on the ceiling were hung strings of the Union Jack and other banners. The side walls were crowded with shields and festoons, while Missletoe boughs were hung around the huge pillars. The whole hall, which was canvassed, presented a very pleasing spectacle, and much credit is due to the honorary secretary, Mr. E. D. Sale, for his ungrudging labours in making the dance a success. He was assisted in his arduous work by Messrs. P. S. Bowles, R. Sclater, E. P. McLaughlin, L. Chitts, D. Wilson, R. Smith, and others. The dance committee had selected a choice programme of music, which was highly appreciated. The officers and members of H. M.'s Customs Service are to be congratulated on the success of last night's event, the result of the assiduous and painstaking way in which Mr. Sale and others worked from early morning to decorate the hall and to see that everything was correctly done. From 9-30 o'clock the guests of the evening commenced to arrive, and in a short while the gay hall was crowded with folks invited to partake of the hospitality extended to them by their hosts. The Marine Battalion String Band was in attendance. A sumptuous bar on the East and West verandahs and a very desirable supper in the Durbar Room added to the charm of the event. It is one of the pleasant features of the year to have a ball on the eve of the New Year, and this fact has been borne in mind by the Customs Service who have for some years past made it the day for celebrating their festivity. The New Year was welcomed in the usual way, and the greetings which passed round the hall were innumerable. Dr. Pollen, the Popular Collector, and a number of high officials were present at the dance, which agreed with the general verdict was added to the charm of the diversion. Dancing was kept up till a late hour, when everyone left carrying with them very pleasing remembrances of the hospitality of the staff of her Majesty's Customs Service.

THE GRIEVANCES OF INDIAN COMMUNITY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The following letter has been addressed to the President and members of the Bombay Presidency Association, by British Indian subjects in Natal:—

Gentlemen,—We, the undersigned, representing the President and members of the Natal Indian Congress as well as the Indian Community in South Africa, beg to tender our heartfelt thanks for your exertions on behalf of your presented brethren in South Africa, and also beg to acknowledge the active sympathy you have shown to our cause, which was so vigorously and fearlessly set forth in our behalf by our worthy secretary, Mr. M. K. Gandhi at the recent meeting, held in Bombay, under your kind auspices, whose commission was to ventilate the grievances under which we, your fellow brethren, are labouring, as also to evoke the sympathy and support of the public men and public bodies in India. We earnestly hope the same amount of sympathy and support will be extended till our disabilities are removed in South Africa.—We beg to remain, gentlemen, your most obedient servants, Abdool Carim, Dada Abdoola and Co., Abdool Caudar, M. C. Camrodeer and Co., Moosa H. Cassim, Cassim Mahomed Jeewa, Ajaun Goolam Hoosen and Co., Dawood Mahomed, A. M. Thly, Adamjee Miankhan (G. H. Miankhan), Parsee Rustomjee, Hossein Cassum, D. M. Timson, Peirur Mahomed, N. D. Jothie, Hosen Mamun, Hajee Mahomed Hajee Dada, Hajee Abdoola, Aloby Faki Mahomed, M. N. Talaq, I. B. Timal, M. M. Parak, A. G. Tipnis, M. H. Ebrahim, Mahomed Kasodia, Hassina Sumar, K. Seenevasaga Pillay, A. C. Pillay, P. P. Rungasamy Padeachy, M. Vathagiry, M. V. Pillay, C. K. Ramasamy Naidoo, and Esap Saleman.

DAILY EXPORTS.—DECEMBER 31.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

PURELY PERSONAL.

THERE is a very interesting interview in the *Strand Magazine* Christmas number with Mr. Val Prinsep. Rossetti, whom Mr. Prinsep met at the age of twelve had a great influence over the artist, and respecting him and the late Mr. William Morris Mr. Prinsep has some stories to tell. The three of them went down to Oxford to supply the decorations for the Union Hall, a work which took them several months. At this time Morris indulged the hobby of manufacturing armour. He was giving a party at his rooms one evening, when a consignment of tilting helmets was brought by the blacksmith he employed. "Please, sir," piped the servant as she opened the door, "the man's brought your pots!"

Rossetti was one of Mr. Prinsep's most intimate friends. He loved his London, and would roam the streets at four o'clock in the morning. "He and I were one morning walking through Seven Dials, when a rough-looking fellow was suddenly noticed walking level with us. I stopped and asked our friend if he wanted to fight. 'No,' was the reply, 'you're too big for me; but I'll take on the little 'un'—meaning Rossetti. After a moment's pause the man continued, 'an' I dessay you could be accommodated behind the corner. For God's sake, let us get out of this,' muttered Rossetti hurriedly."

But Mr. Prinsep can tell many funny stories of his own experiences. His uncommon name is the origin of several. Coming home from Venice once his passport was taken from examination as usual at Peschiera, the frontier town. "My name," remarked Mr. Prinsep, "is Valentine Cameron. The authorities made two mistakes: they judged from the final 'e' that I must be a woman, and they took my second name for a title. Consequently, when I came to examine my passport, I found to my amazement that it was made out in the name of Madame la Comtessa Valentina Principessa!" The officials couldn't have even dreamed that "Madame la Comtessa" was a gigantic Englishman! Here is another: "Being invited to dinner party at Lady Cowper's in St. James's square, I was accosted by the groom of the chamber: 'What name, sir?' 'Prinsep.' 'What name, sir?' 'Prinsep,' with emphasis. You may judge of my astonishment when the groom then announced me as 'Prince Bon.'"

Mr. Lang in the *Illustrated London News* gives an anecdote of Dean Stanley's amiable simplicity. The Dean was dining out, and was very late. When he came his collar was unfastened, and the ends vibrated like little white wings about the head of a cherub, but took no part in the fresh curiosity during dinner, and at length, with due precautions, his hostess ventured to ask him if he knew that his collar had broken adrift. "Oh, yes!" said the Dean. "Do you mind?" "Not at all," said the lady. "Then I don't mind, either," answered the Dean: "the button dropped off while I was dressing," and he continued his conversation. It was not, says Mr. Lang, "absence of mind," but unrivalled presence of mind, that Stanley displayed on this occasion. Any other human being would have been at the point of changing his shirt.

Canon Eyton, who has succeeded Dean Farrar as rector of St. Margaret's, is a chat the other day with the Commissioner of the Christian Commonwealth, gave many interesting particulars concerning his career. The man who really influenced his life and whose judgment he was always ready to accept as final, was the late Dean Church. "He seemed to me," says Canon Eyton, to be a man who combined belief in the Church, the ministry, and the sacraments with a really true philosophy of religion. To me he is the greatest man I have known. I did not know him when I was at Oxford, else I should never have accepted the extreme High Church position. To conversations with him I trace the broadening influence that came into my life." A good many people, brought up in much the same way that I was, have made a similar confession to me," Canon Eyton added, that he read Dean Church's books now, and he never reads anything like them. He is the real enthusiasm of my life: I can never forget him."

Canon Eyton expressed himself as incapable of preaching a "set sermon," and said he has always tried to preach to people in the language of the present day. "Preachers often fail, it seems to me, because they do not use language the people can understand; the sermon goes to one side, or other of them, it doesn't go into them. When I hear the average preacher I feel in the middle of the sermon that I would like to go up to him and shake him, and say, 'Now, my dear sir, do you really believe that?' and if you do believe it, do you really believe that it means?' The average sermon is unreasonably conventional." The Canon added that Farrar's ideas on many questions were diffe-ent to his; and about half of the former congregation gone, but others had come.

To the question whether he had heard any of the leading Nonconformists preach, Canon Eyton said he had heard Dr. Parker, the late Mr. Spurgeon, and also Dr. Allon. He thinks Dr. Parker is a man of very great power. So was Dr. Allon. "I met him," said the Canon, "and thought him most delightful and quite an extraordinary man. Spurgeon I thought very vulgar. His sermons did not seem to have much thought in them, and I was disappointed; but there was no question about the man's power. One Nonconformist, who greatly attracts me though I never heard him preach or speak, is Dr. Horton. He is a very charming man, I am a great deal more in sympathy on the practical side with some Nonconformists than with many Church people. I felt that keenly when I lived in Dorsetshire, where the spiritual life of the villages was kept alive by Nonconformists, the clergy with their old-established notions being as dead as door-nails."

The meeting in Edinburgh in connection with the proposed Stevenson memorial was to be addressed by Lord Rosebery (who is to preside), Emeritus-Professor Masson, J. M. Barrie, and others, and it is not unlikely that their will be a divergence of opinion expressed as to the best method of commemoration. Outside the Scottish capital (a correspondent writes) the proposal to place a statue in Prince's-street will not meet with much favour. That famous thoroughfare, dominated by the magnificent Scott monuments, which dwarfs the statues—and notably that of Livingstone—in its neighbourhood, has already a quite sufficient number of stone and bronze effigies. There is a certain fitness, however, in the suggestion of the neighbourhood of the Braids, the hilly district between Edinburgh and the Pentlands, with which Louis Stevenson was as familiar as was his "forerunner" Scott.

It is related of Robert Louis Stevenson that, in early manhood he was greatly interested in a grave marked by a rude, weatherworn stone, which he discovered one day in his rambles among the Pentland Hills. It was the last resting place of one who had been slain in battle, and Stevenson renovated the tombstone with his own hands. It might be inferred from an incident like this that the distinguished writer favoured monumental commemoration; and if so, he did not alter his opinion, for in the course of one of the very last letters he wrote he exhibited his interest in commemorating the poet Ferguson in this manner. It will be noted that Mr. Edmund Gosse alludes to the Braids expressively as the "the memorial, what-expression, and one well to start [illegible] in sculpture."

Mr. William Sharp, in an interesting article in the December number of the *Atlantic Monthly*, tells some stories of the late William Morris. Once, when touring the Hammersmith ward with Mr. Morris, Mr. Sharp was struck with his pleasure in the brusque frankness of a labouring man who recognised him. "They tell me you're a poet, Mr. Morris. Well, I know nuthin' about potes or pote'ry, but I'm bloomin' well sure I know a man, an' you're one, by God!" "That's the stuff," he said to me afterwards—"that's the stuff we want; and, mark you, that's the stuff, too, that in the long run'll m working for in prose poetry as well. I believe in the common blood."

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THE GIRL WITH HOPES.

A REPORTER (says the *Peterborough Standard*, England) called upon Mr. Richardson, manager of Mr. Iliff's extensive brick works at King's Dyke Whittlesey (Cambridgeshire), and had an interesting experience. Miss Richardson open the door, and her rosy cheeks presented a picture of health. Mrs. Richardson said her daughter was sixteen years of age, and enjoyed good health up to about two years ago, when she took cold, and seemed, as the mother said, to be in a decline. Professional advice was obtained, but the girl made no progress, and became so weak that "we quite expected," said the father, "that we should lose her, but you see her here now looking quite well again."

"How has this improvement been effected?" the reporter asked.

"There is Hope."

"By the merest accident," replied the father. We found out what can be done by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People from a pamphlet that had been pushed under the door. I read it, and said to my wife, 'Here's somebody advertising, and if only half what it says is true there's hope for Jane yet.' The same night I sent for a box of Pills, and before half the box was gone we saw a marked change. As you see her now, she is a woman again and well."

"What was the matter with her?" questioned the reporter.

"A decline—Consumption; but there are no signs of that disease now. She was so weak she couldn't do anything; it appeared as if she hadn't strength to walk. But the Pills entirely cured her. She takes them still occasionally, whenever she feels a little weak, and they seem to set her up at once."

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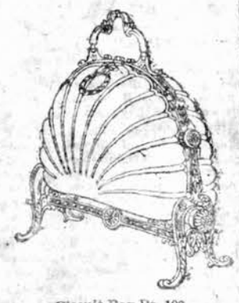
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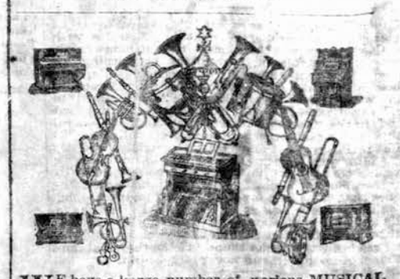

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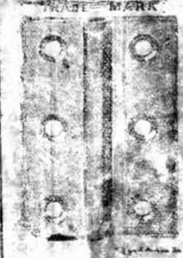

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